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FRANCIS?**

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**Focus on
KEVIN REEVES
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**THE No.1 IN
FOOTBALL**

TREVOR FRANCIS



Francis played superbly against Spain in Barcelona.

Superstar or super-flop?

TREVOR Francis was hailed the new Jimmy Greaves when he made his debut as a fresh-faced teenager for Birmingham City on September 5th, 1970. He was sub that day. The following week he scored on his full League debut. England's golden boy truly confirmed his exciting potential in February, 1971, by becoming the youngest player, at 16, to score four League goals, against Bolton. England Under-23 honours followed but injury, difficulties in playing for a struggling club and loss of form combined to delay his full England debut until February, 1977, against Holland at Wembley. Even then the richly gifted Francis could not command a regular place in Don Revie's England teams and doubts were expressed whether Trevor Francis would fulfil his huge potential. **SHOOT** has canvassed the opinions of Bob Latchford and Andy Gray, two experienced internationals whose opinions on football are valued. We have also asked the man himself, Trevor Francis, who gives an exclusive verdict on his progress.

GRAY AND LATCHFORD ARE

THEY called him Superboy. The first 16-year-old to score four goals in a League match. The most exciting teenager since Jimmy Greaves.

England caps followed as automatically as eggs at Easter and turkey at Christmas. But those in the know were not entirely convinced about Trevor Francis.

Has Superboy become Superman?

Not according to his England record — a modest five goals (three this season) from 18 appearances.

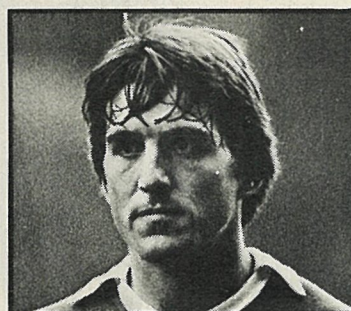
European experts also waited for evidence that Francis is ready to join the ranks of the Superstars of the past.

But now it seems Francis is on the threshold of the greatness predicted for him nine years ago. The winning goal in the European Cup Final was a good start. And in March this year he scored two brilliant goals for Forest in the European Cup escape act in Berlin and



another for England in Barcelona. He will get better, too. That's the firm opinion of two players who fully understand the pressures of scoring goals to justify huge transfer fees.

England and Everton striker Bob Latchford, who was Francis's shooting partner at Birmingham City and played with him for England, says: "Trevor needed the experience of playing regularly in Europe for a successful club. If he



had been with Liverpool or Arsenal when he was younger, he would have gained that experience and become a better player sooner."

Andy Gray also has a lot in common with Francis. At 21 he was the PFA's Player of the Year. Now he's Britain's most expensive player — but only just threatening to make an international impact with Scotland.

"It's nonsense to say Trevor has not lived up to his reputation,"

says Gray. And he insists Clough was wrong to blame Francis for Forest's League Cup Final flop.

"It was completely unfair that he should have taken the rap," added Gray. "Why didn't Clough give us the credit for blocking him out of the game? That was one of our plans."

However, in any analysis of Francis' as a world-class player, it's impossible to escape the fact that he has never been picked to start more than two England games in succession.

"Don't forget he was unlucky with injuries," says Latchford. "This delayed the start of his England career and kept him out again last season. Every player needs a constant run in the England side and Trevor has never had the chance to be like Kevin Keegan. People don't say — 'That's it, he's in.'"

"It has taken Trevor a long time to become a regular international player, and that's understandable.

TREVOR'S FULL INTERNATIONAL CAREER

DATE	OPPONENTS	VENUE	RES GLS
9.2.77	Holland	Wembley	0-2 —
30.3.77	Luxembourg	Wembley	5-0 1
4.6.77	Scotland	Wembley	1-2 —
8.6.77	Brazil	Rio	0-0 —
7.9.77	Switzerland	Wembley	0-0 —
12.10.77	Luxembourg	Luxembourg	2-0 —
16.11.77	Italy	Wembley	2-0 —
22.2.78	(Sub for Keegan) W. Germany	Munich	1-2 —
19.4.78	(Sub for Keegan) Brazil	Wembley	1-1 —
13.5.78	Wales	Cardiff	3-1 —
20.5.78	Scotland	Glasgow	1-0 —
24.5.78	Hungary	Wembley	4-1 1
3.6.79	Bulgaria (Sub)	Sofia	3-0 —
10.6.79	Sweden	Stockholm	0-0 —
13.6.79	Austria	Vienna	3-4 —
17.10.79	(Sub for Latchford) N. Ireland	Belfast	5-1 2
22.11.79	Bulgaria	Wembley	2-0 —
26.3.80	Spain	Barcelona	2-0 1

TREVOR Francis, potentially the most exciting player to emerge at international level since Kevin Keegan made his debut for England against Wales in 1973, does not mince words in assessing his progress in the white shirt of his country.

"I feel it's been frustrating for me at international level because I should have played better. Yet there is no doubt in my mind that the 1979-80 season has been good for me both at club level and with England.

"I was pleased with my performances against Northern Ireland and Bulgaria, and the goal I scored against Spain in Barcelona is my best in an England shirt.

"There is no doubt in my mind that I am playing well for England because Ron Greenwood has sorted out my best position. I'm at my happiest playing alongside Tony Woodcock.

"It worked against Northern Ireland — and it succeeded again in Barcelona when he scored the first goal, and I the second.

"I think we complement each



EXCLUSIVE

Trevor insists 'I'M BEST UP-FRONT'

other. Our success together suggests to me that I'm better playing alongside a mobile striker than a target man.

"It's the same at club level. Garry Birtles and I have developed a similar understanding at Nottingham Forest. Garry has worked his way through to England's B team and it won't be long before he's challenging for a full cap.

"One of the reasons for my progress is the help I've received from Ron Greenwood, and Brian Clough and Peter Taylor at Forest.

"It's all to do with attitude. For instance, Ron Greenwood has given me a free role. He wants me to be flexible. "He doesn't tie me

down to one position. I'm free to go anywhere I want to go. Against Spain, I played the majority of the game up-front, but I had the freedom to switch with Kevin (Keegan) if I wanted to. If Kevin wanted to go up-front, I'd drop back.

"All Ron Greenwood wants is movement, a fluid system with players left to their own initiative.

"At Forest, it's different. There, Peter Taylor thinks my best position is on the right of midfield, so, obviously, I'm more of a disciplined player there. I play to Forest's requirements, in a rigid 4-4-2 system.

"I do occasionally play up-front at Forest, which is the position I prefer."

Asked whether he could cope happily with two vastly different roles, he replied: "I don't think people appreciate how difficult it can be to play in two different positions and be expected to do well in both.

"Club football comes first and without success at Forest I don't think I would be in the England squad.

"Forest have certainly enhanced my England chances, but it's not easy playing one week as a midfielder player and then suddenly as a spearhead expected to produce the goods immediately.

"I am sure that I can get better. I feel happier now than before. When I first played for England under Don Revie's management (v Holland 1977) I felt rather tense.

"Ron Greenwood likes us to express ourselves, as we do at club level. Not just during the game, but in training.

"The players have responded. We are treated as responsible players. It's most noticeable that the players are happier and this is reflected in our improved performances.

"I, personally, am enjoying my football now as much as I have ever done. I have another two years of my contract to go at Forest and look forward with great anticipation to helping the club win plenty of honours in that time.

"I was angry for being made the scapegoat for Forest's defeat in the League Cup Final but that was an isolated moment of disappointment.

"My argument then was that football is a team game and for me to be singled out for criticism was very unfair. The trouble is I am a player who will make headlines whether I play badly or well.

"I want my football ability to do the talking. If I had to single out my best asset for examination, it would be my pace.

"It's not so much the ability to run 100 metres quicker than the next player. It's how you use that pace. There are times when you have to slow the game down.

'Tougher'

"I now have the frame of mind to take on any defender in the world. I feel I can go past anyone and hope to prove it in the European Championship Finals in Italy this summer.

"The Spaniards gave us a lot of stick in Barcelona. We can expect the tackling to be even tougher in Italy. Spain were very rugged. Tony Woodcock and I felt it, particularly in the second-half.

"We turned Spain's defenders in the first-half. No defender likes that. After the interval they made sure we weren't going to go past them.

"They became over-physical and a couple of them were lucky not to be sent-off. The Italians are renowned for their tough tackling but when you get the right results, a goal or two, you tend to forget about the other team. The only way to defeat this rugged defensive system is to continually go past players.

"England now have players capable of doing just that."

FRANCIS FANS

He's not had the time or been given that time. Partly this explains why he has not made an impact on the big stage.

"Playing more in Europe is helping him. He's a very good player now and the best maybe is to come providing he's not messed about too much."

Gray agrees: "He's a class player and he can only get better."

Better

But the argument still rages over Francis's best position. Forest have tried him in midfield, wide out on the right, and down the middle since Tony Woodcock left to join Cologne.

Gray says: "I feel Trevor might have been better if he had not been chopped and changed around by his manager. His best position is as an attacker coming through from deeper positions. He's not a midfielder player and it's a waste of time to have him on the right."

Latchford also believes that Forest must play to Francis's scoring instinct. "I'd have him up-front but would give him a free role, floating about and picking up balls. In fact, I'd just leave it to him.

"Midfield? That's not Trevor."

Francis's 14 months with Forest have blown hot and cold. He's been criticised by both Brian Clough and Peter Taylor. Others have queried whether he has a killer streak. And perhaps he didn't help himself by insisting on spending last summer in America.

"If Trevor didn't realise the way Brian Clough operates, he came in for a shock," says Latchford. "But Trevor is a stronger character than some people think. The lad wants to do well and he'll get on with anybody."

So the debate goes on. Trevor Francis — superstar or super-flop? The European Championship could decide the issue. And Bob Latchford and Andy Gray are backing Francis with much justification.

THE VERDICT

● Shrewd observers of England's performances in the past decade were positively glowing about Trevor Francis's contribution to Spain's defeat. He had finally arrived!

Francis's style embodies all the assets shared by the great forwards of football history. He has exceptional pace; a killer instinct near goal; a temperament so reliable he can endure the most savage tackling; and a charisma which lifts him above the other players and is good box office.

There is not an international manager in the world who would not want the outstanding striker in his team.

More important for England is that Trevor Francis, already outstanding, is getting better!

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'Liverpool

ACCORDING to many reports, Liverpool blotted their copy book when losing 2-0 to Spurs at White Hart Lane in a League match. We were accused of football unbecoming League Champions by preferring to play "ale house" stuff, in the words of our former manager Bill Shankly.

We plead guilty to failing to live up to our reputation for fair, skilful football, with which we began the game, and to descending to a level unworthy of a side thrusting to retain the leadership of what we believe to be the finest football showcase in the world — the English First Division.

It was a bruising 90 minutes that sent us away disgusted with ourselves for losing our self-control and letting down ourselves, manager Bob Paisley and, most important of all, our loyal supporters.

But it takes two to make a fight — and Spurs seemed to be determined to avenge their Cup-tie defeat at our hands on their ground at all costs.

Their hard, no nonsense tackling put us out of our rhythm and, instead of trying to play our way back into it, we began to match them crunch for crunch.

The worst incidents occurred between our Graeme Souness, once a Spurs player, and Terry Yorath, who had previously clashed in the Cup-tie and simply carried on where they had left off.

It was obvious the two were indulging in some sort of feud, and unfortunate that as midfield men with similar roles they could not be kept apart.

The explanation for their behaviour could simply be an instinctive dislike of one another.

This happens outside of football, in other walks of life.

But it's important to put on record that Graeme received his single booking from the referee not for violence, but for dissent — and he steadfastly insists it was a case of mistaken identity and that someone else made the remark!

The two other occasions when the referee showed the yellow card were when David Johnson was booked for a late challenge on Terry Yorath — who one reporter claimed "Put on such a show of agony that he could have been auditioning for the stage" — and early on in the game when John Pratt swept Phil Neal's legs from under him.

Pressure

I'm not trying to whitewash Liverpool, to pretend that we're angels in red shirts, but this game was strictly an isolated instance of a great team, generally regarded as a marvellous advertisement for our football, falling from grace by resorting to the wrong sort of "fighting spirit".

The comparatively small number of disciplinary points we've collected this season testify we're not a team of kickers. We currently lie in the top half of the Fair Play League, which we've won in the past!

I think at times people forget the tremendous pressure we're under as Champions bidding to retain our title. Every team wants to take our scalps, which makes every game like a Cup-tie!

It would be unfair to judge us on our sub-standard performance against Spurs, but on the basis of our previous games, and those we've played since.

'Graeme Souness and Terry Yorath obviously dislike each other'

They provide ample evidence that Liverpool are far from being a dirty side. We've never yet won a match by being over-physical and putting the boot in. The fantastic run of success we've enjoyed over the past decade is all down to dedicating ourselves to playing highly-disciplined football.

Take it from me, the Liverpool that shamed itself against Spurs won't be seen again!

From a personal standpoint the game holds a bitter memory for me. For the third time this season I conceded a penalty by bringing down a player.

This time it was Peter Taylor, after

relating to penalty kicks by allowing 'keepers to move along the goal-line.

I doubt if this will result in a big increase in penalty saving. Even though 'keepers will be able to move sideways, they'll still have to make a guess — albeit an educated one at times — as to where the ball is to be placed. So you'll still be seeing them diving the wrong way!

It seems to me that referees should be paying more attention to goalkeepers who advance off their line to narrow the shooter's angle.

I saw an example of this in a European Cup Quarter-Final between Hamburger SV, Kevin Keegan's team, and Hadjuk Split. The Hamburger 'keeper, Rudi Kar-

jus, was able to make a diving save because he was two yards in front of his line at the kick.

I'll probably be accused of acting against my own interests by advocating a change in the Law relating to obstruction in the penalty box. At the moment the offence is punished by an indirect free-kick.

But what's the difference between a defender sticking out a foot to trip an opponent in a dangerous shooting position and obstructing him by running across in front of him?

By dealing with this anomaly, the Law-changers would remove something which causes more arguments and consequently bookings for dissent than anything else in the game.

I'm sure that referees would welcome it as well as players.

This Saturday's League match at Anfield is against Arsenal, the team we drew in the Semi-Finals of the F.A. Cup.

I rate Arsenal as the best side in London. A win over The Gunners will preserve our unbeaten record at home this season against Southern sides.

See you next week —

Ray Clemence

aren't a team of kickers'

he was put clean through by Chris Jones picking himself up after a collision with our Phil Thompson who was on the ground fiercely protesting.

Glenn Hoddle, who had had little chance to show his delightful skills, gave me no chance with a hard drive into a far corner.

It was ironic that while I was giving away that third penalty — more than any in a previous season — another 'keeper was continuing to make astounding spot-kick saves.



Ray Clemence
TALKING
SOCCER

I'm referring to Paul Cooper of Ipswich Town, who saved twice from two different Derby County penalty-takers to help his team hold on to a point at Portman Road.

It then brought his tally of saves to eight out of ten, which could enable him to get into the record books at the end of the season.

In fact, one was made at Anfield, and although I questioned him afterwards about it in a recording for my programme the following Sunday on Radio City, he wouldn't reveal his secret.

I think the explanation is a simple one. He's made a study of penalty-takers — as all 'keepers do — and has applied his knowledge better than the rest of us. And the more saves he makes, the worse the psychological effect on the men who place the ball on the twelve-yard spot.

While on the subject of goalkeeping, I was interested to read that F.I.F.A. are likely to amend the Law



The Ipswich 'keeper dives to stop Terry McDermott's spot-kick at Anfield.

'Paul Cooper — an astounding penalty-saver'

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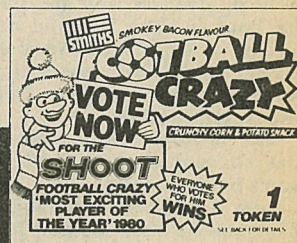
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State clearly in block capitals, in ink, the name of your choice on the coupon. In the box on the coupon put either an 'E' if your choice is an English League player, or 'S' if he's from the Scottish League.

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Tartan Talk

DANNY McGRAIN



'Celtic not good enough to conquer Europe'

Stielike (left) hammers home Real Madrid's second goal in a 3-0 victory against Celtic.

SO our great European Cup dream turned to dust in the magnificence of Madrid's Bernabeu Stadium... just the place we hoped we could return to for the Final of that tournament in May.

But it was not to be. I could dedicate my whole Tartan Talk to a series of "if onlys" but the facts are we are just not yet good enough to win the Continent's top competition.

The 3-0 defeat by Real Madrid in Spain after beating them 2-0 in Glasgow was sorely disappointing, but it was not the end of the world. Anyone who saw the games will know at no stage were we outclassed and we certainly did not let anyone in Scotland down.

Yet it has to be said we are not at that level yet. Mind you if we learn the lessons which were driven home so well, who is to say how far we can build on them next time?

Real Madrid aren't invincible. I don't rate them a great team by any means and if you will excuse me one "if only" — had we taken our chances, or even one of them we had early in the game in Madrid, it would certainly have been us in the Semis.

Real were a big disappointment in front of 67,000 at Parkhead.

Their heads went down after we scored and we might have added three or four. Sure they were better over there... but only with the help of a terrible referee.

Having said all of that, I still believe they can win the Cup. The thought of playing the Final on their own ground is a tremendous carrot to any club.

If they make it I just hope their behaviour is better than it was in the second-leg against us.

At Parkhead they were perfect gentlemen, doing the name of their famous club proud. They were admirable ambassadors both on and off the pitch.

But how that changed in Spain. In the first 15 minutes I had memories of that infamous Semi-Final a few years back when the assassins of Atletico, Real's city rivals, kicked, hacked and scythed Celtic.

This was the other side of the Real Madrid coin. Two tackles — on Bobby Lennox and Johnny Doyle — defy description. It was an eye opener and I wonder if they would have tried it on had the second-leg been in Glasgow.

One thing I did find surprising was the lack of atmosphere in the Bernabeu, despite the presence of 120,000. I know that must sound a little crazy, but the only times the Spaniards really made any noise was when Real scored. In between all the singing was coming from 3,000 Celtic fans in the ground.

However the build-up to the game from the moment we arrived in the beautiful Spanish capital was just fantastic.

And apart from a few idiots who let the side down, our travelling support were just marvellous and the Spanish people really took to them.

Fantastic

What now for the European Cup? Well, I believe Nottingham Forest can do it. Their performance in coming back from the dead behind the Iron Curtain wasn't just fantastic, it was uncanny.

Of the four who are left — Forest, Ajax, Hamburg and Real — the English club are the ones with the most experience and that is vital at this stage as we know to our cost.

This time, unlike last year, the Semis are composed of four pedigree sides who have won the tournament ten times between them with only Hamburg missing out.

Meanwhile back on the home front the snows came again at the end of March just when we thought we were getting away with our lightest winter in years.

We should have known better of course and while England was enjoying a lovely sunny Saturday and a full programme, North of the border we were up to the top of our shinguards in snow and had all but a white-out.

I'll tell you, it makes for very boring Saturday afternoons... but I have to confess to one sneaky bonus.

I usually go to bed early on Friday night, but when I learned that our game was off I stayed up late... and saw my first late night movie in ages.

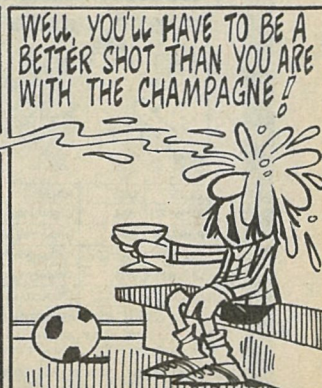
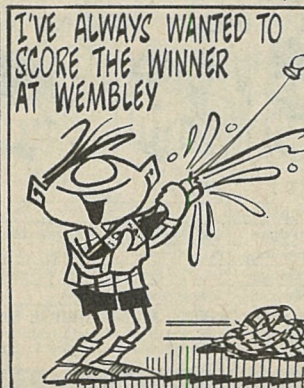
It was a horror story too... but not live from the Bernabeu Stadium!

See you in two weeks...

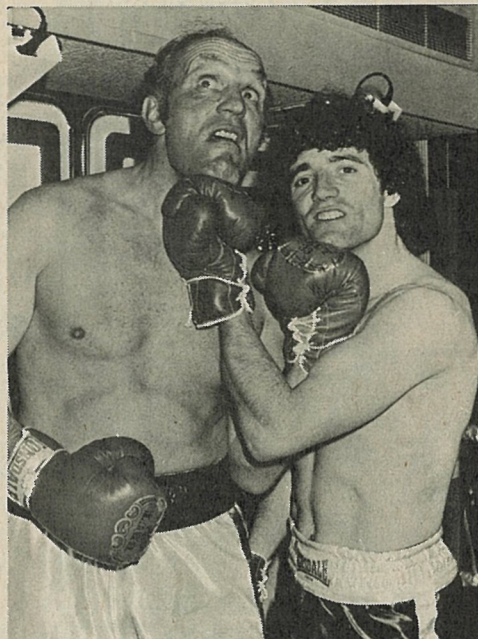
Danny McGrain

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN TALK BY RANGERS' DEREK JOHNSTONE

NOBBY



Sweet smell of Kev's fist



HENRY Cooper meets his match. The former British and European heavyweight Champion, who once dumped Muhammad Ali on his back in a World Heavyweight title fight, found himself on the end of a gloved fist thrown by ... Kevin Keegan.

England's soccer superstar flew into London from West Germany to team-up with "Our Enemy" to promote Brut. Keegan signed a three year contract with Faberge.

Keegan also confirmed that he will be playing for Southampton next season.

"I've given my word. If I back out of that, I wouldn't be able to walk down the streets of England again. There is no way I will."

COVENTRY are to join Aberdeen, Celtic, Hibs, St. Johnstone and Morton, together with the top ten Highland League sides, in this year's Highland five-a-side tournament at the Aviemore Centre, on Saturday, May 31, and Sunday, June 1.

SMITH WANTS HUNT

BIRMINGHAM CITY manager Jim Smith says that if the St. Andrew's side get promotion to the top flight this season he will go out and buy a couple of players to strengthen his squad.

One man he has his eye on is Coventry's out of favour winger Steve Hunt. Hunt, who was with Aston Villa before he returned to this country after a glorious spell playing alongside Pele with New York Cosmos, comes from Birmingham and would welcome a move to join up with Smith.

FIVE years after a knee injury threatened to end his career, Mick Fairclough has made a remarkable comeback.

Huddersfield Town supporters will remember Mick, who joined The Terriers from Drogheda in 1971. But a few years later he was advised to give up the game and he returned home to Ireland.

However, the 27-year-old made a surprising comeback with Dundalk, scoring in his debut after coming on as a substitute.

Moncur gets tough

HEARTS new boss, Bobby Moncur, is to clamp down on stupid actions which result in players being booked, and eventually suspended. This season the Edinburgh side have had six players side-lined — Cammy Fraser, Walter Kidd, Frank Liddell, Derek O'Connor, Ian Black and Bobby Masterston. Manager Moncur says that the figure is "too high" and admits a lot depends on the kind of offences that are committed. He has told the players that he will not tolerate dissent, kicking away the ball or any silly actions, otherwise they will find their pay packets a bit lighter.

QUOTE from Irish F.A. President Harry Cavan: "The plain truth of the matter is that the people of Northern Ireland do not want an All-Ireland team."

STOKOE LOSES WATSON

ROCHDALE boss Bob Stokoe isn't a gambling man... and that is why goal-keeper Ian Watson has returned to Sunderland after spending most of the season on loan to the struggling Fourth Division club.

"We would have loved to keep Ian, but Sunderland had the right to recall him at short notice and we couldn't risk that happening after the transfer deadline," explained Stokoe, who is a former Sunderland manager.

"We didn't have any other 'keepers with experience and it would have left us in a terrible mess if Ian had suddenly gone back to Roker Park."

So Watson left Spotland shortly before the deadline and Stokoe went to Bolton to borrow their reserve 'keeper David Felgate for the rest of the season.

"We're grateful to Sunderland for letting us have Ian. He did a fine job for us and I'm sure the experience will have done him a lot of good."

Hawley out again

STRIKER John Hawley's season has turned sour after an unforgettable start.

An ankle injury has put the Sunderland player out for the season — the latest setback to hit the former Leeds forward since his move to Roker Park in October.

He has been dogged by groin and hamstring injuries which have restricted him to only nine first team games.

Now, while on the verge of a comeback to the League side, he picked up an ankle knock while playing for the reserves. It needed five stitches and he's been ruled out for the season.

★ Ex-Glenavon, Oldham, Port Vale, Linfield, Bangor, Portadown and Distillery midfielder ace Eric Magee is now playing for "B" Division outfit Dungannon Swifts.



SUBBUTEO STAR

DARREN Wise deservedly won the North of England Subbuteo Championship held in Leeds recently.

He is also favourite to take the All England title at Nottingham on April 26th.

Leeds United striker Terry Connor (left) presented Darren with his trophy.



Phil Parkes, the world's most expensive goalkeeper uses Metric goalkeeping gloves and says — "I recommend that you buy from Sukan Sports."

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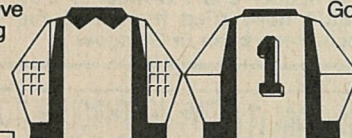


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UHL 025	Wet	White smooth foam rubber	Black PU velvet	White 3 level foam rubber	£12.50
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'DON'T IGNORE US'



says MICK MILLS

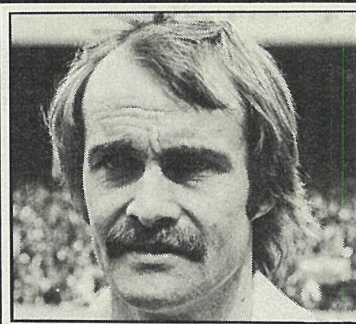
IPSWICH Town are not receiving the recognition their outstanding performances this season deserve. Their players are not rated highly enough — and newspapers and television are not giving the First Division club proper coverage.

These are the outspoken sentiments of Mick Mills, the East Anglian club's captain and England full-back, in a bitter attack.

Mills says: "It was disgusting that Ipswich were only mentioned in passing at the P.F.A. awards dinner. The dinner underlined the obvious handicap that we play under because we definitely don't get the recognition we deserve."

"I know some people will just treat my comments as sour grapes but they should consider the facts. Next to Liverpool, I believe Ipswich have been the most consistent team in the League over the past seven years or so."

"We were third top of the table when the dinner took place and in my opinion it was laughable that none of our players were in the



running for the various awards.

"Frans Thijssen and perhaps George Burley and Paul Mariner (left) should have been in the First Division line-up, and how neither Russell Osman nor Terry Butcher were among the top nominees for the "Young Player of the Year" award, I will never understand."

"I cannot think of two more consistent young players in the country. They are both 21 and yet play at the heart of the defence, a position normally associated with experience."

FOOTNOTE: Mick chose eventual winner Terry McDermott, of Liverpool, as his "Player of the Year".

Briefly...

● Cambridge boss John Docherty had only eleven and a half fit players to choose from when he picked his team to play Birmingham.

Substitute Doug Evans, was also carrying an injury but was not called upon to appear.

● Birmingham City's visit to Cambridge to United this season was their first. In ten years of League football at the Abbey Stadium the 'U's have never previously entertained the Blues.

● Middlesbrough manager John Neal had a special date at Buckingham Palace. The former Wrexham boss saw Andrew, his 19-year-old son, receive the Duke of Edinburgh award. Andrew works at an Aberystwyth Sports Centre.

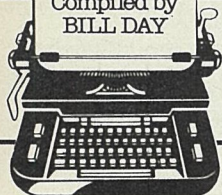
● A player with a famous footballing name is currently making quite an impact in junior soccer. He is Newry youngster Martin O'Neill, a regular in the Ireland team for the Deaf.

● A new name will go on the coveted English School's Trophy this season. Middlesbrough and Reading are both making their first appearance in the Final. Both teams have faltered in recent years at the Quarter-Final stage. Now they are set to battle it out at Middlesbrough on May 3 and at Elm Park on Friday, May 9.

● Luton fan Paul Shields came up with a novel way of sponsoring The Hatters in their promotion drive. He decided to donate £1 to the club for every home goal scored and £2 for every away goal scored.

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
BILL DAY



Wembley bound after seven years

GUISBOROUGH Town have written the most romantic story of the season. After battling through all the rounds of the F.A. Vase, the Yorkshire team will walk out at Wembley on April 26 to play Stamford.

Not bad going for a club formed only seven years ago!

The Wembley dream has even surprised manager Mike Hodgson. At the start of the season his aim was a good run in the national tournament after success on the North-East scene.

Hodgson admits, "I did not expect to go all the way to the twin towers of Wembley. I am thrilled and overjoyed for the players and the club."

Guisborough triumphed 5-3 on aggregate in the Semi-Final with Hungerford Town. Labelled 'Dad's Army' compared with the young Berkshire side, the Northern Alliance leaders won 3-1 away and drew 2-2 at home.

Centre-forward Dave McElvaney was a two-goal hero after Hungerford twice took the lead in the second leg.

★ Ballymena United schemer John Sloan, already an established Inter-League cap, could soon be battling alongside younger brother Tom (Manchester United) for a midfield berth in Billy Bingham's Northern Ireland squad.

KEEGAN ANGERS TODD

BIRMINGHAM CITY's former England defender Colin Todd has an extra reason to look forward to promotion. For Todd can't wait to face Southampton next season and their new star, England skipper Kevin Keegan.

Keegan annoyed Todd when the ex-Derby man moved down from the top flight with Everton to Second Division Birmingham.

The England star said: "I sometimes

think Colin would rather play darts at his local than play football."

Todd said: "People said I chickened out when I joined Birmingham but that just isn't true and I think the progress the club's made proves that. I can't wait to get back to the First Division."

"I'm coming up to 31 now but feel as fit as I did when I was 26. I don't think I've ever enjoyed my football more."

Cowdrill's gamble

IT is less than a year since 23-year-old Barry Cowdrill gave up his job as an insurance clerk and gambled on a career as a full-time professional footballer with West Bromwich Albion.

And it has certainly paid off, for Cowdrill has come through at a rapid rate of knots and he got his first taste of First Division action when Albion drew with Norwich at Carrow Road.

Cowdrill certainly doesn't lack confidence for he left the ground telling everyone: "There's nothing to it."

Cowdrill is one of the growing band of players who are arriving as professionals later in life. He was a free scoring winger with Midland Combination side Sutton Town when Albion snapped him up. Injuries forced them to use him at full-back in the Central League and that's where he made his first team debut.

JOHNNY Giles has come in for a fair share of criticism since he returned to Dublin in the summer of 1977 to manage Shamrock Rovers. But the players appreciate what Giles is trying to achieve and so does P.F.A.I.'s Secretary Mick Leech.

"Whether people care to admit it or not since the return of Johnny Giles from England, the domestic game has improved immensely," says Leech.

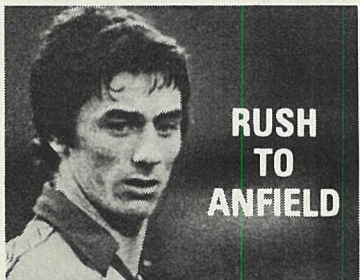
"Before he joined Shamrock Rovers the game had sunk to a low level, but his presence has made other clubs raise their standards and not only on the pitch."

Incidentally Leech was one of the first players released by Giles when he took over, so there are obviously no hard feelings.

PETER LORIMER was sent-off playing in his last game for York against Tranmere. The following day, Hot-shot jetted off to the North American Soccer League to play for Toronto Blizzard, but he didn't escape punishment.

The English F.A. banned Lorimer for three games, and as the Canadian F.A. are affiliated to F.I.F.A., the suspension was recognised and Peter missed the opening of the N.A.S.L.

Incidentally, I hear that Lorimer will probably be playing for York again next season.



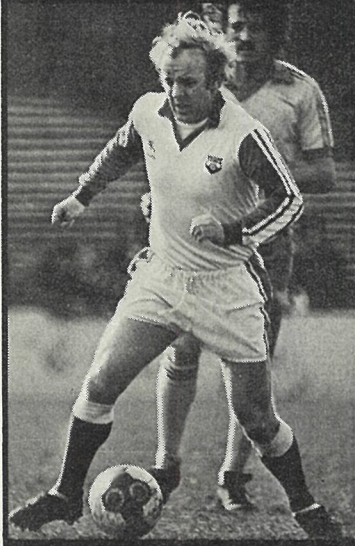
RUSH TO ANFIELD

CHESTER'S 18-year-old striker Ian Rush did not fancy a move to Liverpool.

He was heard talking recently about a possible move to Anfield. Apparently he wasn't keen on giving up regular first-team football in order to spend the next two seasons playing reserve team football for Liverpool.

Manchester City were reportedly interested in Rush, who burst onto the League scene this season. So it came as a surprise when he went . . . to Liverpool.

Bremner returns

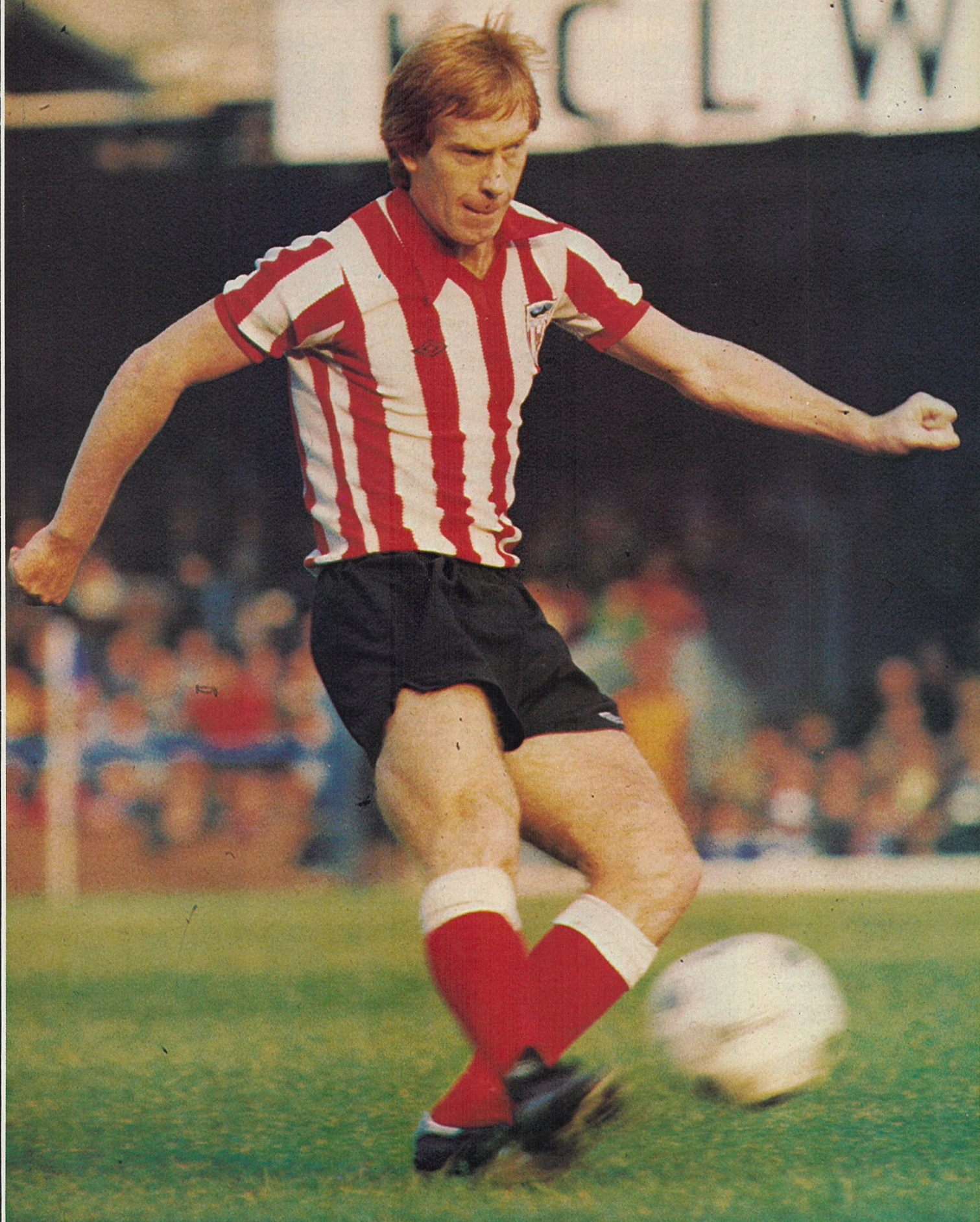


DONCASTER manager Billy Bremner made a surprise comeback for the Fourth Division club he manages against Bournemouth.

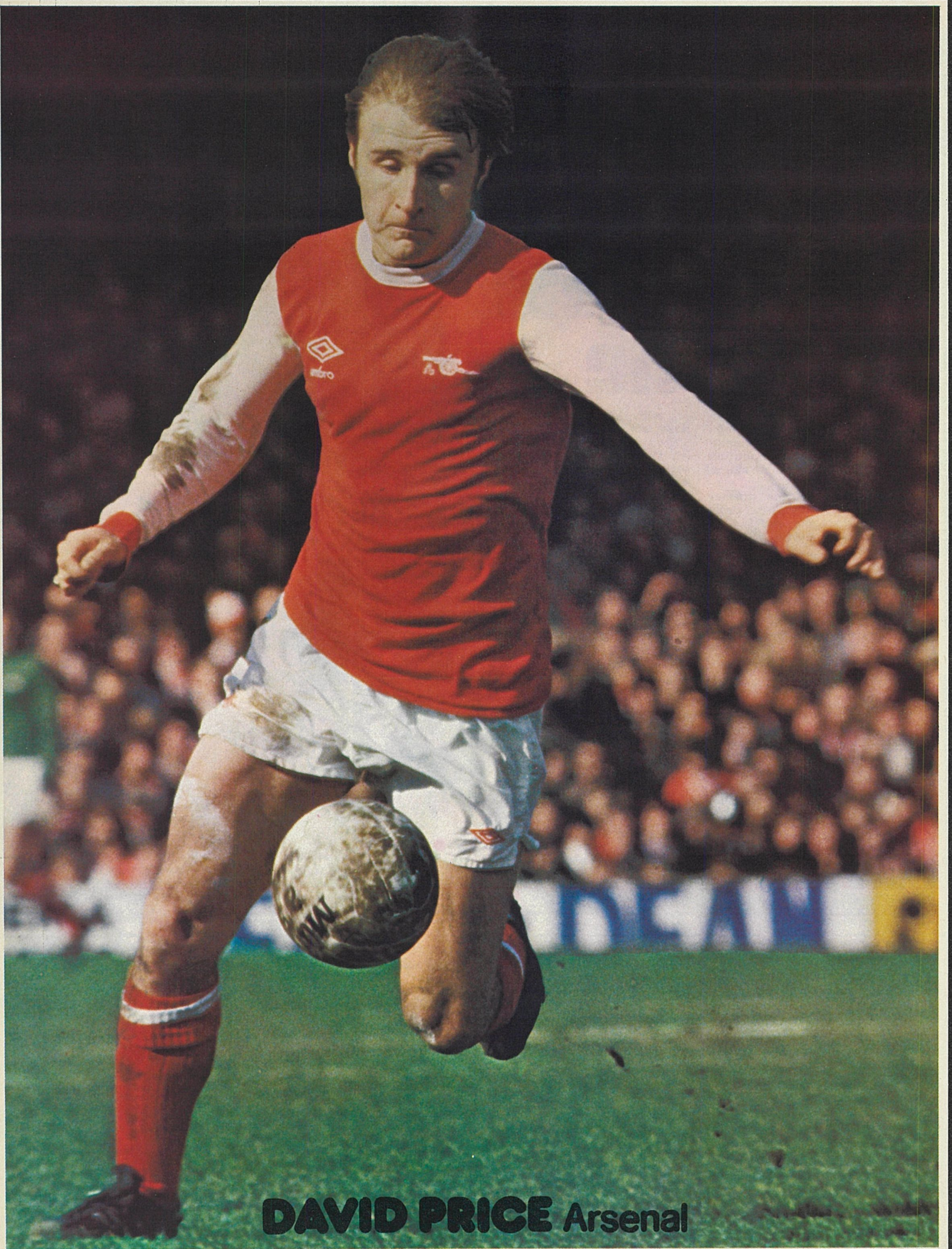
The former Leeds midfield maestro pulled on his boots again because of Doncaster's injury problems and helped them to a 1-0 home win.

"I didn't particularly want to play football again — but had to in this instance," said Bremner.

STEVE WHITWORTH Sunderland



SHOOT!



DAVID PRICE Arsenal

SHOOT!

Sensation as England lose bruising Semi-Final battle

A PART from an official name-change — from European Nations Cup to European Championship — the third competition (1966 to 1968) saw a major alteration in organisation.

Abandoned was the former straight aggregate knock-out basis in the early stages, and the 31 competing nations were split into eight Groups.

Each nation in a Group played each other home and away — with the nation topping the Group at the end going forward to the two-legged knock-out Quarter-Finals

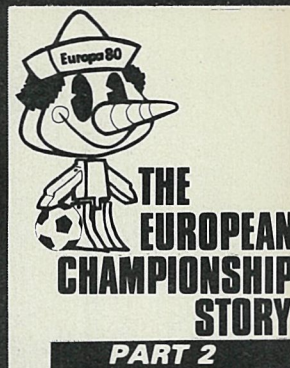
... with the Semis, and the Final itself, staged in Italy.

Two years' matches in the British Championship were used to settle Group Eight, in which England finished one point ahead of Scotland.

And it was England's last match, at Hampden, which provided the crunch.

A year earlier, the Scots had triumphed 3-2 at Wembley to register England's first defeat since winning the World Cup.

In the return-leg, England needed at least a draw in front of a



Martin Peters (far left) scores England's crucial goal in a 1-1 draw against Scotland, but Alf Ramsey's team went out in the Semi-Finals of the competition to this goal by Yugoslavia's Dragan Džajić (above).

1966 to 1968 competition

GROUP ONE

Eire 0, Spain 0
Eire 2, Turkey 1
Spain 2, Eire 0
Turkey 0, Spain 0
Turkey 2, Eire 1
Eire 0, Czechoslovakia 2
Spain 2, Turkey 0
Czechoslovakia 1, Spain 0
Spain 2, Czechoslovakia 1
Czechoslovakia 4, Turkey 0
Turkey 0, Czechoslovakia 0
Czechoslovakia 1, Eire 2
(Group winners: Spain)

GROUP TWO

Norway 0, Bulgaria 2
Portugal 1, Sweden 2
Bulgaria 4, Norway 2
Sweden 1, Portugal 1
Norway 1, Portugal 2

Sweden 0, Bulgaria 2
Norway 3, Sweden 1
Sweden 5, Norway 2
Bulgaria 3, Sweden 0
Portugal 2, Norway 1
Bulgaria 1, Portugal 0
Portugal 0, Bulgaria 0
(Group winners: Bulgaria)

GROUP THREE

Finland 0, Austria 0
Greece 2, Finland 1
Finland 1, Greece 1
Russia 4, Austria 3
Russia 2, Finland 0
Finland 2, Russia 5
Austria 2, Finland 1
Greece 4, Austria 1
Austria 1, Russia 0
Greece 0, Russia 1
Austria 1, Greece 1
Russia 4, Greece 1
(Group winners: Russia)

GROUP FOUR

Albania 0, Yugoslavia 2
West Germany 6, Albania 0
Yugoslavia 1, West Germany 0
West Germany 3, Yugoslavia 1
Yugoslavia 4, Albania 0
Albania 0, West Germany 0
(Group winners: Yugoslavia)

GROUP FIVE

Holland 2, Hungary 2
Hungary 6, Denmark 0
Holland 2, Denmark 0
East Germany 4, Holland 3
Hungary 2, Holland 1
Denmark 0, Hungary 2
Denmark 1, East Germany 1
Holland 1, East Germany 0
Hungary 3, East Germany 1
Denmark 3, Holland 2
East Germany 3, Denmark 2
East Germany 1, Hungary 0
(Group winners: Hungary)

GROUP SIX

Cyprus 1, Rumania 5
Rumania 4, Switzerland 2
Italy 3, Rumania 1
Cyprus 0, Italy 2
Rumania 7, Cyprus 0
Switzerland 7, Rumania 1
Italy 5, Cyprus 0
Switzerland 5, Cyprus 0
Switzerland 2, Italy 2
Italy 4, Switzerland 0
Cyprus 2, Switzerland 1
Rumania 0, Italy 1
(Group winners: Italy)

GROUP SEVEN

Poland 4, Luxembourg 0
France 2, Poland 1
Luxembourg 0, France 3
Luxembourg 0, Belgium 5
Luxembourg 0, Poland 0
Poland 3, Belgium 1
Belgium 2, France 1



Luigi Riva scores Italy's first goal in the Final replay against Yugoslavia, which the host nation won 2-0 (left).



NEXT WEEK: West Germany destroy England's hopes.

Poland 1, France 4
Belgium 2, Poland 4
France 1, Belgium 1
Belgium 3, Luxembourg 0
France 3, Luxembourg 1
(Group winners: France)

GROUP EIGHT

Northern Ireland 0, England 2
Wales 1, Scotland 1
England 5, Wales 1
Scotland 2, Northern Ireland 1
Northern Ireland 0, Wales 0
England 2, Scotland 3
Wales 0, England 3
Northern Ireland 1, Scotland 0
England 2, Northern Ireland 0
Scotland 3, Wales 2
Scotland 1, England 1
Wales 2, Northern Ireland 0
(Group winners: England)

Quarter-Finals

England 1, Spain 0
Spain 1, England 2
Bulgaria 3, Italy 2
Italy 2, Bulgaria 0
France 1, Yugoslavia 1
Yugoslavia 5, France 1
Hungary 2, Russia 0
Russia 3, Hungary 0

Semi-Finals

Yugoslavia 1, England 0 (Florence)
Italy 0, Russia 0 (Naples)
(Italy won on toss of coin)

FINAL (Rome: 8 June, 1968)

(attendance: 75,000)
Italy 1, Yugoslavia 1
ITALY: Zoff, Burgnich, Facchetti, Ferrini, Guarneri, Castano, Domenghini, Juliano, Anastasi, Lodetti, Prati.
YUGOSLAVIA: Pantelic, Fazlagic, Damjanovic, Pavlovic, Paunovic, Holcer, Pet-



Italian captain Giacinto Facchetti proudly displays the trophy.

partisan 134,000 Glasgow crowd to clinch matters, and did so 1-1.

Spain, Bulgaria, Russia, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Italy and France joined England in the Quarter-Finals — played on a home-and-away aggregate basis.

England were the only team to win both legs outright. A Bobby Charlton goal was enough to account for Spain at Wembley; and then Martin Peters and Norman Hunter scored one each in an impressive 2-1 win in Madrid for a 3-1 aggregate.

Neither Italy nor Yugoslavia had too much difficulty in joining England in the Semi-Finals, though Russia needed to fight back hard to eliminate Hungary after going down 0-2 in the first-leg.

The closing stages, in Italy, were hardly as satisfying, from more than one standpoint, as had been hoped.

With the Italy-Russia Semi-Final still goalless after extra-time, the host nation got a lucky free passage into the Final on the flimsy margin of the toss of a coin, a ruling which met with much criticism, even from some Italians.

In the other Semi, a late breakaway goal by Dzajic sent Yugoslavia through at England's expense in a bruising match — which had the dubious distinction of seeing, in Alan Mullery, the first England player ever to be sent-off in a full international.

As Mullery explained after: "Trivic ran his studs up my left leg after I'd released the ball, and I whacked at him with my right foot. I didn't connect properly, but he fell about as if he'd been shot."

"As the referee made it clear he was sending me off, Trivic jumped up with his arms in the air, and started romping about with excitement as if he'd just scored a spectacular winning goal!"

Unfortunately for Mullery, the referee found the first part of the performance convincing enough.

The Final itself was also something of a damp-squib. A late goal from a free-kick gave the Italians a lucky draw against a superior Yugoslav side. But in the replay, two days later, a much-changed Italian line-up gave better value for their 2-0 triumph.

England comfortably beat a lacklustre Russia by the same score to take third place — their best position to date — with goals from Bobby Charlton and Geoff Hurst.

kovic, Acimovic, Musemic, Trivic, Dzajic.

Scorers: Domenghini for Italy; Dzajic for Yugoslavia.

FINAL REPLAY

(Rome: 10 June, 1968)
(attendance: 60,000)

Italy 2, Yugoslavia 0

ITALY: Zoff, Burgnich, Facchetti, Rosato, Guarneri, Salvatore, Domenghini, Mazzola, Anastasi, De Sisti, Riva.

YUGOSLAVIA: Pantelic, Fazlagic, Damjanovic, Pavlovic, Paunovic, Holcer, Hasic, Acimovic, Musemic, Trivic, Dzajic.

Scorers: Riva, Anastasi for Italy.

THIRD-PLACE MATCH

England 2, Russia 0

(England team: Banks, Wright, Wilson, Stiles, Labone, Moore, Hunter, Hurst, Bobby Charlton, Hunt, Peters. Scorers — Charlton, Hurst.)

This week's Star Letter comes from Ken Jamieson of the United States of America. He writes:

SOCCER'S A KICK IN THE...?

★ IN the North American Soccer League and other professional sports in Canada and the United States, there is a growing concern over the use of artificial or synthetic turfs in our major stadiums. Of the 24 teams in the NASL, 11 clubs play in stadiums with Astroturf or other synthetic turfs (the Chicago Sting split their season between Wrigley Field grass and Soldier Field synthetic).

When synthetic turfs were first used in 1965 (Houston Astrodome)

GOALLINES

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All letters must be exclusive to this magazine.

they were heralded as the best thing since electronic scoreboards; however in the 15 years since, serious side effects of such turfs have appeared as opposed to the

"natural alternative".

Although the upkeep is much lower (in costs) it has its most serious effect on the players. As any soccer fan knows, slide tackles are an integral part of our game — however, these have been discouraged on synthetic turfs because of the painful burns suffered by the tacklers.

This is not only exclusive to soccer players as American football and baseball players suffer the same injuries. A recent National Football League survey has also revealed that injuries such as hamstrings, groin pulls and others are more frequent on the "rug" than on grass.

Furthermore, one of the most common statements made by Europeans and South Americans coming to our League is "the Astroturf is murder", and, one more thing, the synthetic turfs seriously alter the rhythm of the ball in the way it bounces.

Besides, the saying "Soccer is a kick in the Astroturf" makes no sense!

● Astroturf is fine for training pitches and a few Football League



The Cosmos (left) are just one of a number of teams in the NASL to use an Astroturf pitch.

clubs use them for this purpose. They encourage ball-skills. But for the "real thing" there is no substitute for grass. And please send me your address, Ken, so we can post one of our special T-shirts to you.

Sponsors take-over?

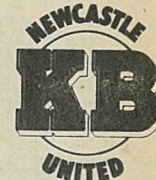
IN the Philips Soccer League of Australia, sponsoring is allowed on teams' shirts. One club, Newcastle United, is sponsored by the firm "K.B."

Since then, the club has come to be known as "K.B." or "K.B. United" by the majority of the supporters. The club is the best supported in the P.S.L. and it is a shame that it is ruined by the 'nickname'.

Soon you could be hearing of Liverpool Hitachi Football Club.

MICHAEL SELFE, New South Wales.

● I doubt it, but let's hope Admiral do well in the European Championship Finals!



Good luck, Geert

I WOULD like to wish Geert Meijer all the best at his new club in Holland.

In the few matches Geert played with Bristol City he showed great skill. Unfortunately, Alan Dicks did not see this.

SIMON GLANVILLE, Redcliffe Bay.

● Unfortunately it's the manager's opinion that matters!

Wembley

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LEAGUE PROMOTION

MICKEY Cook has experienced some unlikely happenings in his 11 years at Colchester.

The famous F.A. Cup victory over Leeds in 1971 is top of the list. For Leeds were the great untouchables at that time — a combination feared throughout the footballing world.

But their reputations meant nothing to little Colchester — who wrote themselves into the history books with an unforgettable 3-2 win.

Cook had just joined the club then, as a raw 17-year-old from Orient. And the nearest he got to the action that day was a seat on the sub's bench, wearing the number 12 shirt.

But he established himself in the side soon afterwards and has played a leading part in some memorable Cup battles since.

Now Cook is going as strong as ever as Colchester bid for the

I think we have worked wonders to be in this position.

"The word 'unfashionable little club' could have been invented for Colchester. They don't come much smaller than us.

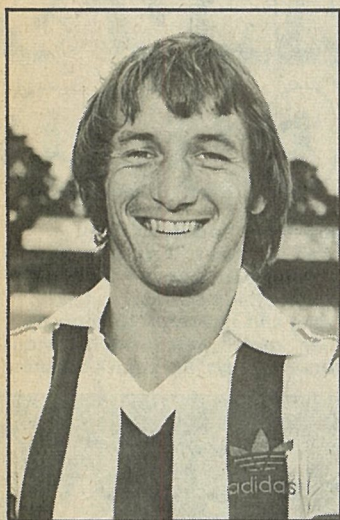
"Things really have to be run on a tight budget. Colchester have no money to throw about recklessly.

"It's been a bigger achievement than most people realise. We get pitifully small gates — and it's difficult to raise your game when the ground lacks atmosphere.

"It must be marvellous to play for the two Sheffield clubs. They get good crowds, who must be worth a goal start to them.

"But we don't get them. We accept that and have got on with the job to the best of our ability.

"The race for promotion will be fought out until the closing days of the season again and we are all confident we can stay right in the thick of the fight.



COOK KNOWS THE RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

unlikely prize of all — a place in the Second Division.

They have caused a stir by being up among the Third Division front runners all season — an incredible achievement from a club of limited resources.

And, to make things even sweeter for Cook, Colchester have chosen his testimonial year to launch his bid for better things.

Even if they don't make it and have to face life in the Third Division again next season they can still look back with pride on a magnificent season.

"Everyone at the club has sweated hard to bring success and we have earned everything that comes our way this season," Cook claims.

"A lot of people have been staggered by the fact we have been among the leading bunch all season. They consider our form a flash-in-the-pan and have been waiting for us to start sliding down the table.

"And they seem to think we will struggle if we are lucky enough to win a place in the Second Division.

"We have proved them wrong by mounting a sustained challenge and we'll prove them wrong if we go up — just like Cambridge and Shrewsbury proved their critics wrong by getting up and doing reasonably well.

"In view of all the circumstances

"The one thing we dread is getting hit by a few injuries — for we have not got the players to cope with that.

"Bobby Roberts has never had the luxury of a large squad at his disposal. So it says a lot for him that he has got the most out of the players at Layer Road.

"The lads have been absolutely tremendous. If one has had an off-day — and that happens to everybody — the rest have pitched in to help him out.

"There's a great spirit here and a burning desire to get into the Second Division for the first time in the club's history.

"Even if we fail to make it — and nobody's even considering that — we can still look back on a wonderful season."

Mickey Cook is one of a rare breed. A man who has given devoted service for no great reward.

A lot of footballers will go out of the game much richer than he is. Few will go with a clearer conscience.

It has already been a season to remember for him, with a testimonial match against West Bromwich Albion and several other functions that have raised a few bob to help pay the mortgage.

It would be great if he could cap it all by helping Colchester into the Second Division.



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1

At half-time both linesmen tell you they are having problems giving correct decisions due to the similarity between the stockings of the teams. Should you: (a) take no action, (b) order both to change or (c) order one team to change?

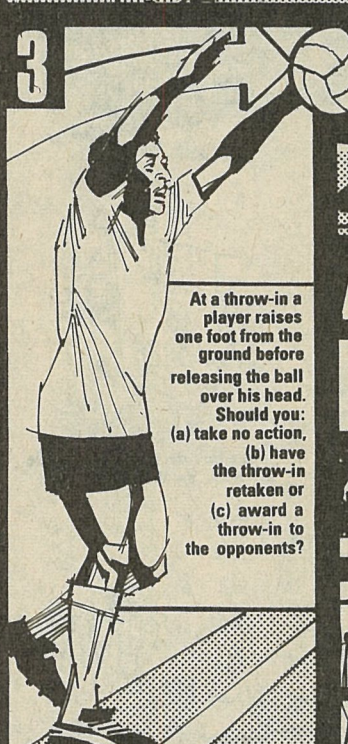


2

During play you notice a goalkeeper's studs are too long. You stop play and order him off to change his boots. Should you restart play by: (a) dropping the ball, (b) a penalty-kick or (c) an indirect free-kick?



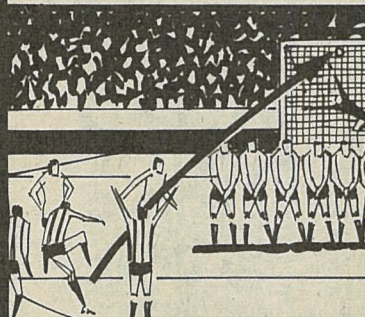
3



At a throw-in a player raises one foot from the ground before releasing the ball over his head. Should you: (a) take no action, (b) have the throw-in retaken or (c) award a throw-in to the opponents?

4

Before you signal a free-kick is indirect, an attacker places the ball and kicks it straight into goal. Should you: (a) award a goal, (b) a goal-kick or (c) have the kick retaken?



5

When you go on to the field must you introduce your linesmen to the captains before the linesmen check on the nets? (a) yes, (b) no or (c) is it left entirely to the referee?



1. Order one team to change (c). 2. Dropping the ball (a). 3. Award a throw-in to the opponents (c). 4. Have the kick retaken (c). 5. It is left entirely to the referee (c). I started this introduction to League football a few years ago, and I always have my linesmen to first check on the nets and ensure they are all right and then introduce them to the captains.

ANSWERS

FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"What's new, Bert?"



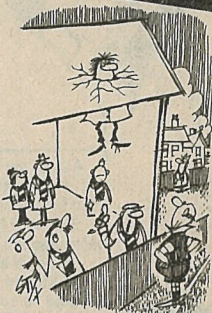
"We were getting lousy attendances, when our manager came up with this brilliant idea."



"He scored a goal in the dying seconds of the game."



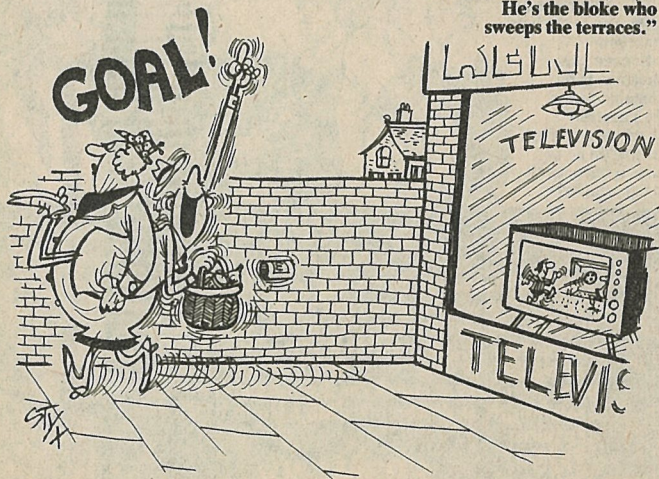
This week Peterborough's Billy Kellock selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"Your last decision, ref, made my mate go thro' the roof."



"I've found out who he is, boss. He's the bloke who sweeps the terraces."



WHILE England were teaching Spain a lesson in football skills and discipline in Barcelona, I was in action for the B team at Roker Park, Sunderland.

I realise the game is now history, but I've had quite a few letters from readers asking for my views on the match against Spain B.

As you may recall, Ipswich Town defender Russell Osman headed England's winner eight minutes from time.

But really that solitary goal was scant reward for our complete dominance over what I've been told was virtually Spain's Under-23 team.

Two factors kept the score down ... their tremendous goalkeeper Agustin, and the Swedish referee who appeared to blow up for off-side every time he saw an England shirt cross the halfway line.

the result more realistic.

Skipper Pop Robson won the ball before firing a great shot past Agustin from inside the penalty-area.

The West Brom midfielder displayed class and quality and was one of five B stars capable of making the full squad.

Paul Mariner looked sharp and could well earn a recall to Ron Greenwood's team.

West Ham's ever-improving youngster Alan Devonshire, whose flighted free-kick led to our goal, gave a fine performance.

So did Russell Osman and Sunderland's Shaun Elliott, obviously encouraged by the cheers of his home fans.

I must also mention Middlesbrough's David Armstrong, making his B international debut. His selection was just reward for years of

'ENGLAND'S SECOND

He ruled out an early Bryan Robson goal, judging Paul Mariner offside.

It was an incredible decision. Had that goal counted I'm sure England would have gone on to score the three or four that would have made

consistency and dedication.

And I can't forget Liverpool defender Alan Kennedy, my roommate on this occasion.

Alan and I have got to know each other quite well from previous tours. He says he enjoys rooming



Arsenal's Alan Sunderland in action for England B against Spain B at Roker Park.

with me because I'm asleep most of the time. This means he can watch TV or read in peace, without my chatter.

Big Al is also an avid SHOOT reader. Apparently he's got a mate on the staff, chief sub-editor John Hamon.

They were at a party together a few months ago, but Alan won't tell me about it. It must have been some party!

I was well pleased with my performance at Roker and was unlucky not to have scored, but Agustin pulled off another blinding save.

Like most people in the crowd I was disappointed at Spain's total disinterest in attack. Their first real shot took half-an-hour and only in the late stages of the match did they put us under any sort of pressure.

If this team is any indication of

the young talent Spain have coming up then England have nothing to worry about from them in Italy.

One thing the B side appear to have learned from their seniors... the art of making late, and brutal tackles.

England's dressing room after the game looked like the casualty department of Nottingham Infirmary on a Saturday night.

Alan Devonshire and Shaun Elliott in particular had nasty bruises and cuts from tackles which had scythed into their ankles and calves.

Who said footballers are soft?

That wasn't my first appearance for the England B side, of course. I went on tour to the Far East with them a couple of summers ago and then toured Austria, Bulgaria and Sweden last year. So I'm quite a B veteran.

But I was soon making arrangements with my usual enthusiasm for the match at Roker. Let's face it I'd much rather play at any international level than sit it out on the substitute's bench, or be left out altogether.

Anyway, what's so bad about winning England B honours? It's still an honour few players achieve. There's nothing second class about England's 'second' team.

Progress

Ron Greenwood reintroduced them soon after taking over from Don Revie as manager, and they've played a vital part in England's progress since.

Not only do B games provide an ideal stepping stone from the Under-21's, but give more players the chance to prove themselves at international level.

In the past many players have found it difficult when moving straight from the First or Second Division into the full England side.

They haven't been given time to adjust and settle into the higher grade. Often a player who could well have made a contribution to the England team has been discarded too soon.

That rarely happens now. The B squad is the ideal way to gain vital experience. The transition isn't so drastic.

Preparation and training

schedules for B internationals are virtually the same as the full squad.

Bobby Robson and Don Howe handle the B teams and the lads like to do as well for them as they would for Ron Greenwood.

Like the England supremo, Mr. Robson is a great motivator and treats players like mature adults.

Don Howe has also been a great help to me, particularly when we've worked closely together on set-pieces and dead-ball situations.

Obviously you aren't under the same pressure in B matches as you are in full internationals.

The games are all friendlies with nothing at stake except pride and played on club grounds in front of crowds rarely above the 15,000 mark.

You miss the atmosphere of a Wembley or Nou Camp stadium... the big match build-up... after match Press interviews... TV cameras.

But, as I've said, I'm proud to pull on that white shirt, if it's for the full, B or Under-21 team. I even get a thrill playing for England XI's in meaningless testimonial games.

On Saturday (April 19th), Forest entertain local rivals Derby County at the Baseball Ground.

This is one game Forest badly want to win to avenge that 4-1 drubbing Derby gave us earlier in the season. I've only just begun to hold my head up again after that humiliating experience.

Derby look doomed, but are still in there fighting and should give us another hard time.

As much as I want to beat County I don't want them to go down. I'd like all the Midland clubs in the First Division.

Cheers for now...

Viv Anderson

FIRST CLASS TEAM

Players selected for the B team now receive a cap. It's red as opposed to the full cap which is blue. Our B international jerseys are exactly the same as the seniors.

Naturally I wanted to play for the full England side in Spain. My first reaction when I received the customary letter and itinerary from the F.A. was one of disappointment.

I'd set my heart of playing in the fantastic Nou Camp stadium in Barcelona, the scene of Forest's European Super Cup Final triumph a few weeks previously.

MY SOCCER
WORLD

**Viv
Anderson**

John Duncan leaves Viv and Peter Shilton stranded as he heads Derby's second goal against Forest at the Baseball Ground earlier this season.



EASTER ROAD



Peter Cormack (left) has teamed up again with Eddie Turnbull at Hibs.

PETER CORMACK

Hibs' next manager?

EDDIE TURNBULL Mark Two is the man who could become the new manager of troubled Hibs some time in the future, taking over from Eddie Turnbull Mark One!

Peter Cormack, who has fitted gracefully back into the team he left over ten years ago for Nottingham Forest, is the man tipped strongly to become the new supremo at Easter Road.

It's unusual in this competitive, cut-throat day and age, but if Cormack does oust Turnbull it will be with the current manager's blessing.

SHOOT believes the opportunity to become Hibs manager was the main reason Cormack rejoined the club destined for relegation shortly after his free transfer from Bristol City.

Ambitious

Cormack could have joined ambitious Dundee United, the League Cup holders, or gone to Swansea as player/coach alongside his former Liverpool teammate John Toshack, but he elected to return to Edinburgh and the club with whom he first made his name.

It was considered a strange choice at the time. However, it is now thought that Turnbull had been asked to groom his own successor before moving into a new position at Easter Road.

Cormack signed a four-year contract with the club, two being as a player-coach, but it is possible Hibs will not wait that long before handing over the reins to him.

Understandably, Cormack isn't looking that far ahead and says: "I'm just delighted to be back with Hibs. This club has always been close to my heart."

Cormack was first coached at Easter Road as a teenager by Turn-

bull, who immediately noticed the poise of a thoroughbred and spent a lot of time honing those skills to the peak of perfection that helped Liverpool to two U.E.F.A. Cup successes as well as League triumph during Cormack's stay at Anfield.

Cormack has picked up a lot of useful hints along his soccer road and another manager who meant a lot to him was the one and only Bill Shankly, the man who bought him from Nottingham Forest.

"The man was amazing," says Cormack. "He had an insatiable appetite for the game; a real enthusiast. Someone told me he took his wife to a reserve game on the day they were married. I could believe it!"

Shankly obviously rates Cormack very highly and he believes the player has the right sort of attitude to make the grade as a boss.

"He never was a slacker," growls Shankly. "He always wanted to be in the thick of things and never hid away. You need those sort of qualities if you think about becoming a manager. I stole Peter Cormack when I signed him from Nottingham Forest. I would like to think he learned a thing or two when he joined us."

Turnbull has worked well with Hibernian, but a fresh face could give the side new direction. Turnbull helped Cormack as a player and it looks as though he will work again on his talents to make him into a successful manager.

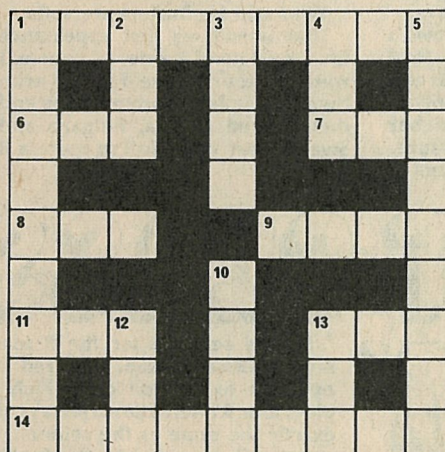
Cormack now realises how tough the Premier Division is after sampling some of the soccer. Raising Hibs to the standards that are expected of them will not be an easy task.

Peter Cormack has a wealth of experience and knowledge from which to draw and it could be that he will be putting it to a good use sooner than he thinks.

PUZZLE TIME

SOCCER SHOCKER

The crossword puzzle with a fine football flavour.



ACROSS:

- 1 Play at Griffin Park
- 6 Nicknamed Honest Men
- 7 Reading's Park Pitch
- 8 Anfield's policeman?
- 9 Asking ref for penalty?
- 11 Silver one is trophy
- 13 Wager on Cup result?
- 14 It begins in August

DOWN:

- 1 They play at Ewood Park
- 2 Referees often do this
- 3 This Moor is Burnley's
- 4 A small score
- 5 Play at Boghead Park
- 10 Port's other half
- 12 Castle on Tyneside?
- 13 A 'special' to a match?

SIX-A-SIDE SEARCH

Select one letter from each row in a frame to spell out a League team. There are six English sides in frame A and six Scottish in frame B. As a guide, EXETER is indicated.

F	E	O	B	O	O
L	O	X	R	X	U
E	L	I	L	F	D
H	T	O	E	H	T
A	O	N	E	R	A
M	N	R	T	D	M

A

C	D	H	F	A	M
O	E	U	L	O	E
A	N	L	R	B	R
T	I	D	T	F	R
T	E	O	A	I	O
C	N	E	R	S	N

B

STAR TREK

Find the soccer stars hidden in these sentences. As a guide, GRAY is indicated in the first one.

- 1 THE DYING RAYS OF THE SUN THREW LONG SHADOWS ON THE PITCH.
- 2 IT'S NOT A LONG BRAD YOU NEED IN YOUR BOOT, BUT A STUD.
- 3 WITHDRAWALS HAVE LEFT THE TEAM SHORT OF GOOD PLAYERS.
- 4 IF HE IS GOING TO STAY, LORD HELP THE POOR TEAM, I SAY.

Answers on page 36.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

WITH festive decorations still strung across living rooms up and down the country and Christmas trees still perky after the celebrations, Stoke City were in no mood for fun.

They were languishing fourth from bottom of the First Division, above Bolton, Derby and Bristol City, and it was anyone's guess whether they would nosedive into the Second Division at the end of this season.

They had won only five of their 11 matches at the Victoria Ground and had won only once away. Relegation stared them fully in the face.

They crashed out of the F.A. Cup Third Round at Burnley before 13,000 fans at Turf Moor.

Then came a significant revival bringing with it a glimmer of hope for escaping the big drop at the end of April. Stoke celebrated the opening Saturday of February by beating fellow strugglers Bristol City at home by courtesy of an own-goal in the second-half by David Rodgers.

The following Saturday they travelled to Selhurst Park, the home of Crystal Palace, who were challenging for Europe eight places behind Liverpool at the top of the First Division.

Lee Chapman broke the deadlock after an hour by firing Stoke in front, a lead they maintained to the end.

Confidence was flooding back as Alan Durban's team started to believe in themselves again.

Now came the stiffest test of the season, a home League match against Manchester United, lying second behind Liverpool at the top of the table.

Twenty eight thousand fans watched Sammy Irvine put Stoke ahead in the first-half and the Potters' fans were preparing to celebrate one of biggest shocks of the season when England's winger Steve Coppell equalised with just six minutes remaining.

A disappointment but enough to

convince Alan Durban that he had stopped the rot.

By mid-February Stoke City were moving up the table. A 3-1 victory at Middlesbrough was superb. Jeff Cook put them ahead after four minutes, and although Middlesbrough equalised through

STOKE'S GREAT ESCAPE

Kenny Burns two minutes later, Garth Crooks confirmed his England potential with two stunning goals.

There was never any question that Stoke would take the First Division by storm, leaving it so late in the season, but they had consolidated and are now preparing to fulfil the dreams of their Welsh-born manager.

At their darkest moments, Alan Durban referred in the club pro-

gramme to "the unpleasant position in which we have found ourselves during the past weeks."

He went on: "Four of our last five games have been away from home and this has slightly distorted the situation."

Stoke, in fact, played only one League game in January, losing at home to Ipswich Town, and they were left with a three week break from competitive action.

Possibly the big turning point came when Alan Durban called his squad together and told them he was taking them away for a few days to Bisham Abbey and a friendly match against Chelsea.

The players had become tense, and even experienced campaigners Denis Smith and Mike Doyle were feeling the effects of the pressure.

It must sadden Alan Durban that

he has none of the riches at the Victoria Ground which are available to Malcolm Allison at Maine Road and Gordon Lee at Everton.

But he has made the most of the resources placed at his disposal and has never complained.

He bought Ray Evans from Fulham, and with the transfer came a player who had played commendably in the First Division with Tottenham and just as experienced as Doyle and Smith.

Dutch midfielder player Loek Orsem came from AZ '67, and Eric McManus, the Notts County goalkeeper, arrived.

Exciting

Curiously, Stoke's biggest problem has been in scoring goals, despite the fact that Garth Crooks, their exciting England Under-21 striker, had totted up 12 goals by Christmas.

If Crooks strikes a barren patch, as he did after scoring a hat-trick against West Bromwich Albion in December, Stoke struggle.

Nevertheless, they have survived. They were by no means overawed by their visit to Liverpool at the start of April. Kenny Dalglish broke the deadlock midway through the first-half, a goal which was to be the only one of the game.

Liverpool had taken another step towards their 12th First Division title and Stoke had suffered another defeat.

If it had happened at Christmas, Stoke's cherry red shirts might have turned black. But that was four months ago.

Stoke were 18th in the Second Division when Alan Durban moved from the player-manager's job at Shrewsbury. He took them to promotion in his first full season.

At the same time, Shrewsbury, his old club, won promotion from the Third Division.

Alan Durban is a winner. His influence is beginning to bear fruit, even though it is a long process.



Stoke's talented Under-21 international striker Garth Crooks (left) helped his side to a valuable 1-0 away win at Crystal Palace to ease his side's fears of relegation.



Manager Alan Durban.



Sammy Irvine (left) and Geoff Scott are typical of the promising young players Alan Durban has introduced to ensure Stoke City have a bright future in the First Division.

STOK



BACK ROW (left to right): Wally Gould (coach), Alan Durban (manager), Adrian Heath, Alan Dodd, Roger Jones, Loek Ursem, Viv Busby (now Tulsa), Paul Richardson, Mike Allen (physio), Tony Lacey (youth coach).

E CITY



FRONT ROW: Mike Doyle, Sammy Irvine, Garth Crooks, Denis Smith, Brendan O'Callaghan, Geoff Scott (now Leicester), Paul Randall.

ALAN James Ball, born at the very moment of triumph at the conclusion of the Second World War, was destined to become a great footballer. How apt it was that Ball, a winner for much of his football life, came into the world in May, 1945, as Britain was celebrating its greatest ever victory.

Alan Ball was born right into the heart of footballing country at Farnworth, a village in what is now the Greater Manchester area. It was just eight miles from Manchester, three miles from Bolton with football crazy Preston 25 miles distant.

Ball's father, Alan senior, had known a footballing existence most of his life. He played for Southport, Birmingham City, Oldham Athletic and Rochdale and went into management after his playing career ended, leading clubs which included Oswestry, Aston United, Nantwich, Halifax and then Preston.

Alan Ball senior shaped the course of his son's life from an early date. A father so keen on the game was bound to develop any such interest in his son, and young Alan soon showed that there was something there for his enthusiastic father to work on.

Alan recalls: "I think my father made his mind up that he wanted me to be a player. Once I showed him something was there, he built on that."

'Dedication'

"You have to know exactly where you are going and he pointed me very firmly in the right direction. He was tough on me. I knew it was total dedication, for I had to eat and sleep football and do the right things, even from a very early age."

Ball was at once involved within the footballing life, for his father was still playing when he first took his young son to matches. "I remember going to see my father play for Southport when I was five or six-years-old and therefore I was always associated with dressing-rooms. I really cannot imagine I would have had any other life."

Father thought long and hard about which club Alan should join when he reached 16 and the time to sign for a club. But even though his dad took great care and attention over the deal, things didn't work out as expected.

Ball explains: "I had trials at Wolves and Bolton and thought I'd like to join both clubs. But they didn't want me, that was the only problem. Both said I wouldn't be good enough and that was an early set-back. But it didn't knock me because my father had drummed it into me that football was full of such disappointments and pitfalls."

Ball had more success with the next club he tried. Blackpool gave him a trial and offered him terms, so the youngster signed on as one of football's hopeful kids.

But Alan Ball was different from most young kids for several reasons, principally the fact he had a driving ambition and a directness of approach rare in kids of that age.

It was, of course, his father's influence but Ball junior wasn't just a promising footballer

**STARTS
THIS WEEK**

THE ALAN

because of his father... a fact he was to prove within just 12 months of his arrival at Blackpool.

Ball made the promotion from hopeful youngster to a member of Blackpool's First Division side in just one year. As an indication of the rich quality of the young player, it was a clear omen for the future.

Ball made his first team debut when he was 17 and played 116 League games for the club, scoring 41 goals. But to move ahead is to miss one of the best moments of his career for, at the age of 19, he made his debut for the senior England side.

"By doing so I kept a promise I'd made to my father many years before," said Ball. "I always told him I would play for England before I was 20, and I made it with about a week to spare."

The reaction of Ball senior was predictable when Alan proudly walked out with the England team into a Belgrade stadium packed with 90,000 fans. Yugoslavia were held to a 1-1 draw that day and Ball had a useful debut. But he remembers: "My father never went overboard when I won that first cap. He wasn't that sort of person."

By the time Ball won his first England cap, he had played First Division football for Blackpool for a couple of seasons.

"I knew I was comfortable in that company. I didn't have to struggle at all even when I made my first team debut and that convinced me I could do well in the top company. It had nothing to do with being big-headed. It was just the confidence which my father had drummed into me coming through at the right moment."

"I played for the England Under-23 team when I was 18 and won eight caps in that team. So I knew I could hold my own in the First

Division as well as international football — and that fact convinced me I could achieve my great ambition."

When Alf Ramsey, the England manager, gave Ball his debut in the senior England side, he was gambling on the youngster going all the way to the top — to fulfil a crucial role for England. It was a colossal gamble, but the dedication, determination and ability of young Ball made it a success.

The youngster fitted into the full

The reject who became winner

Alan Ball joined Blackpool (right) after being rejected by Bolton and Wolves. All the time he was encouraged by his father, Alan Ball senior (left).



The 1966 World Cup Final at Wembley and Ball is brought down by a desperate West German defender.

England team so well he stayed there and was a natural selection for England's World Cup squad two years later. Winning a place in that squad meant another ambition achieved for Ball — but it didn't stop there.

"Getting into that World Cup squad for the Finals in England was the first aim in my heart," says Ball. "I had probably played 20 times for England by the time the 1966 World Cup Finals arrived. We played all over the world and had lost only three games in almost four years."

"All the time I was involved with Alf Ramsey, he was looking for balance, people to complement each other. But it seemed in a way a formality that I'd stay in the World Cup side."

'Dropped'

"It was a joke at that time in the England dressing-room, but we used to say it was easier to get into the England team for the first time than to get dropped. It was a joke but it was also very true. You knew you would get five or six games and if you produced the goods, you would stay."

"Alf was faithful to his players and that was where he differed from Don Revie, who had the players and created the right team but then chopped and changed it about too much."

"No one was confident when they played for England under Don and that was a shame. That is the difference now between Don Revie and Ron Greenwood. Ron has proved he is prepared to stick by people and Alf Ramsey did the same. I was in for a good run once I had won my first cap and I never really came out of the squad."

Ball senior was always an influence on his son, even when he started playing for England. Alan explains: "He saw me progressing and helped me at all levels. What

BALL STORY

he told me about football, even at the highest level, made sense both mentally and technically.

"My father always told me I deserved to be there; he convinced me of that. People sometimes froze when they played for England, especially in Don Revie's reign, but I felt completely right when it happened to me and that was because of my father and the way he convinced me.

"He made me feel as though it was going to happen, that I would play for England and so there wasn't any fear or doubt in my mind. It just seemed to be a natural part and progression of my career and I knew when I started

the footballing world. Yet the start of the Finals was anything but successful for Ball. The Blackpool youngster played in only one of England's Group matches. But for the tough Quarter-Final match against Argentina, Ball was back and he stayed in the team to play a crucial role in the Final.

Critics selected Ball's "astounding stamina" as one of the chief reasons for England's win in extra-time against the tiring West Germans. The little man ran his heart out on the Wembley pitch that July, yet when it came to the moment of triumph, Ball felt little emotion.

"I can remember the Germans

a World Cup for England

playing for England that I was good enough.

"That belief came through strongly from my father and from one other man — Alf Ramsey. His conviction that we would win the World Cup was akin to my father's that I was good enough to be a part of it all.

"Ramsey convinced all his players we would win the World Cup; there wasn't any doubt in the players' minds about it simply because there wasn't any in Alf Ramsey's."

Ball admits he felt "very close" to Ramsey throughout his association with the England manager. "I knew he had given me a chance in the full international side when I was only 19 and I never wanted to let him down for that. Players responded to the chance he gave them for you knew that if you had a bad first match, it didn't matter — you'd get another chance."

1966 was the year England ruled

scoring their first goal and thinking 'Here we go again,' he recalls.

"And their last minute equaliser, which made me think for almost the first time under Ramsey's guidance, that it wasn't going to be our day. But perhaps anyone was entitled to think that after such a cruel blow.

"When Geoff Hurst broke away in the last minute with us 3-2 ahead, I thought I'd be heard back in Blackpool. I was screaming at him to centre because I was completely unmarked in the middle. But when the ball went in, I knew we'd won.

"I couldn't understand why the older players became so emotional. Ray Wilson was crying his eyes out, Jackie Charlton was kissing the pitch and Bobby Charlton was walking around with tears in his eyes. I couldn't make them out — all I was thinking about was having a good night out to cele-

brate!

"It's only now I realise why they were like that. They knew they would probably never get another chance of winning the World Cup, whereas I was young enough to go on to another World Cup, as I did four years later in Mexico. If I had been older, I would have appreciated that day much more, I know that now.

"But to me, at that time, it was really just another international game. I wasn't even conscious I



had played well until people told me so afterwards. Some while later, my father said: 'You will never play better than you did that day' — and maybe that was true."

Once the World Cup was over, it was inevitable that Ball would join a more fashionable First Division club. By the time Blackpool were relegated to Division Two for the 1967-68 season, Ball was already with one of the First Division giants, Everton, the transfer having cost £110,000.

Now Ball is set to return to Bloomfield Road as player-manager.

"I still have a soft spot for Everton," he says. "It's sad to see

World Cup winners, yet Ball couldn't understand the emotion of his older team-mates.



where they are now, but that is football and it makes you very much aware of the pitfalls there are in the game."

Ball joined Everton when the Merseysiders were one of Britain's leading clubs. While at Goodison Park, he helped the side to the League Championship and returned to Wembley for the 1968 F.A. Cup Final.

They brought him joy and despair within the next few years — and then handed him the biggest shock of his footballing career. He'll tell you about it next week.

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO *Ask the Expert*

SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd.,
King's Reach Tower,
Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

Goalscoring parson

In a Sports Quiz, I came across the question "Which parson scored in an F.A. Cup Final?" Can you tell me?

**STEPHEN LEWIS,
BANGOR**

● The Rev K. R. G. Hunt was the man who gave his club that blessing, Stephen. The son of a Wolverhampton vicar, Kenneth Hunt set his local side on the path to Cup victory by scoring the first

goal in Wolves' 3-1 win over Newcastle in the 1908 Final.

"The Rev", as he was popularly known — one of only three amateurs to have gained an F.A. Cup-winners medal in the 20th century — also played in 18 amateur, and two full, internationals for England.

An attacking wing-half, he played for Wolves — as well as the famous amateur team Corinthians — for five years up to 1913, when the increasing time taken up by his Church duties forced him to give up top-class soccer.



Banks' farewell

Can you tell me the date, and opponents, in Gordon Banks' last League game for Stoke?

**STEPHEN BEAL,
DERBY**

● Banksie's 194th, and sadly last, League game for Stoke was in their 2-1 defeat by Liverpool at Anfield on 21st October, 1972, Stephen.

The following morning he was involved in the bad car crash which resulted in the loss of the sight of an eye — and, with it, inevitably the end of a distinguished 73-cap career in top-class British soccer.

Consecutive goals

Which player has scored in the most consecutive games in the Football League?

**GARY SKEGS,
ISLE of WIGHT**

● Arthur Chandler set up the record in the 1924-25 season, Gary, by finding the net at least once in 16 successive Second Division games for Leicester.

Chandler, a prolific scorer of the era, still holds Leicester's aggregate record of 262 League goals for the club between 1923 and 1935.

England shirt

I've become the lucky owner of the England number eight shirt from their game against Scotland at Wembley in May, 1979. Could you tell me who wore it?

**MARTIN EADY,
WALTHAMSTOW**

● Manchester United's Steve Coppell was the man, Martin — and he helped secure England's 3-1 win by scoring the second goal in the 62nd minute.

War game in Ireland

My father has been telling me about a big game he saw during the War at Windsor Park, Belfast, on 13th September, 1941 — but he can't remember the teams involved. Can you help?

**PATRICK KELLY,
U.S.A.**

● It was a match, played in aid of War charities, between the Army and Ireland, Patrick.

In those times, though, the Army team normally consisted of a full side of

international players.

As to the score, and the precise lineup, I'm sorry to say I just can't help — as obviously, in those dark days, paper was so short that very little could be spared for printing sporting details.

SHORT PASSES

● Grimsby's record home gate is 31,658 (v. Wolves; F.A. Cup Fifth Round; 20th February, 1937).

(**S. BLENKHORN, Goole**)

● England's first international v. Ireland was a 13-0 win in Belfast on 18th February, 1882.

(**LEE EVERALL, Staffordshire**)

● Chelsea's record League scorer in a single season is Jimmy Greaves — 41 goals in Division One in 1960-61.

(**LEIGH BAKER, Farnham**)

● The Arsenal team which beat Liverpool 2-1 in the 1971 F.A. Cup Final was: Wilson, Rice, McNab, Storey, McLintock, Simpson, Armstrong, Graham, Radford, Kennedy, George. (Sub: Kelly).

(**TONY DEVLIN, Eire**)

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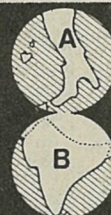
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'PLAYING AT NEWCASTLE SCARED ME'

THE setting was the centre-circle of St James' Park minutes after Bobby Shinton had signed for Newcastle United.

He waved his arm towards the giant West stand and said: "Just look at the place, it's made for success."

"I've always regarded it as a great club and remember being scared to death by the atmosphere on the first time I played here."

"And St James' Park was the scene of one of my greatest football memories — the night Wrexham beat non-League Blyth Spartans in an F.A. Cup replay."

"What a night! Nearly 40,000 Geordies crammed into the ground and created an incredible atmosphere. And there were

admits United striker **BOBBY SHINTON**

thousands more outside."

Shinton's career is now back on the rails after an unhappy spell at Manchester City, where he played only five League games.

City dropped only one point in those games, but Shinton never became a regular First Division player under Malcolm Allison. Yet he remains reluctant to criticise the club or Allison.

"I don't want to knock them," he says. "What happened at Maine Road is all in the past as far as I'm concerned."

"They're a terrific club and I got on well with everybody, but for some reason my face just didn't fit."

"Their present League position

is very sad, but they're a big club and I'm sure they'll rise to the heights again."

For 28-year-old Shinton, reserve team football was a new experience. The goals have come regularly for him, making him a favourite of the fans at his former clubs — Walsall, Cambridge and Wrexham.

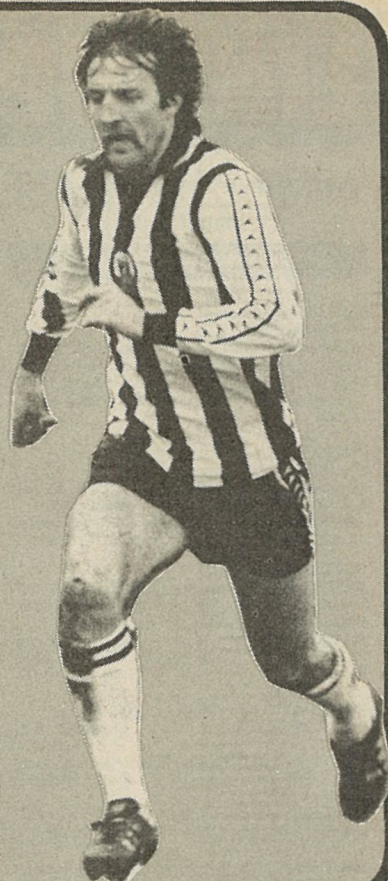
"Reserve team football was no good to me at my age," said Shinton. "That's why I was willing to drop out of the First Division. But I'm sure I'll be back with Newcastle. There are some class players here who won't be content with the Second Division for very long."

Shinton's career began to take off again when George Petchey, the Millwall manager, took him on a month's loan.

"Nobody wanted to know me when I was in the City reserves — I seemed to be going nowhere. Then George stepped in, gave me a chance and people began to sit up and take notice again."

"George was terrific and if he had been the manager of a more fashionable club, I wouldn't have considered going elsewhere."

"But now my future lies with Newcastle. I'm still ambitious to prove myself in the First Division and I'm sure I can do it with this club."



STEVE Kindon is one of the game's great talkers and jokers. And right now he is in tip-top form, laughing all the way up to the Third Division with promotion bound Huddersfield Town.

"Since I arrived here from Burnley at Christmas, I've felt like some kind of pantomime Prince Charming, helping the manager and my team-mates give this club a kiss of life," explained Steve.

The club had been knocked cold by a plunge from First Division status in 1972, to the Fourth, three years later. But now things are really beginning to stir again.

"The results this season have been tremendous. They've brought the fans back to Leeds Road, and there's a genuine air of optimism about the whole town."

'Experience'

"The side is basically a young one, which means that someone with my experience can play the father figure on the park."

"While I've been able to exude confidence to those around me, they've been able to do the same for me in return. My confidence was at a pretty low ebb when I arrived. But between them, the manager and my team-mates have got me ticking over again."

"I must be perfectly honest and admit I've found goalscoring easier in this Division. Goalscoring is never easy, but here a I've found you do get those vital extra few seconds on the ball, and I've been able to adjust to that, and make them count."

Clearly Steve is enjoying his soccer at Huddersfield. Yet he openly admits he really didn't fancy joining them when the opportunity first presented itself.

"I'd asked Burnley manager Brian Miller to circulate my name to other League clubs, because I

'PRINCE CHARMING' KINDON PLAYS THE FATHER FIGURE



felt that I no longer fitted in at Turf Moor," he said.

"When I returned there after five years with Wolves, I firmly believed that it would be the last move I'd make in my playing career. I was going home to roost, so to speak. But when Martin Dobson arrived back from Everton, there was a change in playing policy. I got on well with Martin off the field. But on it, our ideas on football just didn't match up."

"He favoured a slow build-up from midfield, where he was the general. It meant I was running

myself into the ground up-front for a service that never arrived."

"I tried to make my views known at team talks, and there were promises that things would change. But they never did. So I decided to move on."

"When I learnt Huddersfield were interested, my first reaction was I could do better than drop down to the Fourth Division."

"But Mick Buxton, the manager, asked to see me, so the least I could do was agree."

"I played with Mick at Burnley, during my first spell there, and on our first meeting, all we really did was talk about old times. We met twice after that, but still I was reluctant to join them."

"Then the Huddersfield chairman invited me along to see the home game against Rochdale. But instead of watching from the director's box, I went with a friend and stood on the terraces."

"When I was recognised, I took some good natured stick from the fans. But it was on the way out that one fan came up to me and said he wished I'd reconsider. "It's just what our lads need, an experienced player like you around to

help them. It could mean the difference between success and failure for us."

"I suddenly realised just what kind of challenge Huddersfield offered me."

"So between them... the manager, chairman and supporters... they gradually wore my resistance down."

Steve is quick to praise those self same supporters for the encouragement they've given him since his arrival.

"They've been terrific. Chanting my name during matches, and generally making me feel very welcome," he said. "They seem to relish my particular style of play. I've always been pretty direct in my approach — using my strength to bustle my way through, and it seems to have fitted in perfectly."

"Our manager has always been confident about promotion. When I first met him I got the impression that he'd already taken promotion from the Fourth for granted, and was, in fact, planning ahead for promotion from the Third Division, next season."

Sense of guilt

"That's the kind of positive thinking I like. And I'm really looking forward to playing my part towards that aim."

"The only sad thing is that next season I fear I'll be playing against my old club, Burnley, because relegation looks a certainty for them."

"I feel some sense of guilt about that, having played the first half of the season for the club. But while I'll always have a soft spot for the club, my allegiance is now with Huddersfield Town."

"This club was once one of the true greats of the Football League, and I'd like to help them regain some of their past glory."

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Saturday, February 16
(continued)

Third Division

HULL (0) 1 (Edwards)
MILLWALL (0) 0 5,013
Hull: Norman; Nisbet, Horswill, Haigh, Croft, Roberts (D), Roberts (G), Tait, Edwards, Bannister, Farley.
Millwall: Jackson; Sittou, Roberts, Chatterton, Tagg, Blyth (Mehmet), Towner, Seaman, Shinton, Lyons, Kinsella.

MANSFIELD (1) 2 (Austin pen, Pollard)
READING (1) 2 (Earles, Kearney) 3,112
Mansfield: Arnold; Dawkins, Mann, Curtis, McClelland, Bird, Miller, Pollard, Austin, Hamilton, Allen.
Reading: Death; Joslyn, White, Bowman, Hetzke, Moreline, Earles, Kearney, Kearns, Sanchez, Webb.

OXFORD (1) 1 (Brock)
SHEFF. UTD (0) 1 (Kenworthy pen.) 5,687
Oxford: Brown; Fogg, Watson, Briggs, Cooke, Jeffrey, Taylor, Brock, Foley, Berry, McGrogan.
Sheff. Utd: Richardson; Cutbush, Tibbott, Kenworthy, McPhail, Speight, Garner, Bourne, Butlin, Sabella, Charles.

SHEFF. WED (0) 3 (Mellor 2, Wylde)
CHESTERFIELD (1) 3 (Moss, Crawford, Salmons) 23,433
Sheff. Wed: Bolder; Blackhall, Grant, Pickering, Smith, Hornsby, Wylde, Taylor (King), Mellor, Johnson, Curran.
Chesterfield: Kendall; Tarrt, O'Neill, Ridley, Green, Kowalski, Birch, Moss, Walker, Salmons, Crawford.

SOUTHEND (2) 3 (Kruse o.g., Gray, Spence)
BRENTFORD (1) 2 (Shrubb, Phillips pen.) 3,950
Southend: Cawston; Dudley, Moody, Cusack, Yates, Pountney, Otulakowski, Gray, Mercer, Spence, Nelson.
Brentford: Bond; Salman, Tucker (Allder), Harding, Kruse, Fraser, Graham (W), Graham (J), Smith, Shrubb, Phillips.

Fourth Division

ALDERSHOT (0) 1 (Garwood pen.)
WALSALL (0) 1 (Buckley) 4,421
Aldershot: Johnson; Edwards, Wooler, Dixon, Bennett, Youlden, Crosby, Lucas, Garwood, Needham, McGregor (Green).
Walsall: Green; Macken, Mower, Sbragia, Serella, Paul, Penn, Williams, McDonough, Buckley, Caswell.

BOURNEMOUTH (1) 2 (MacDougall, Hefernan)
TRANMERE (0) 1 (O'Neill) 2,807
Bournemouth: Smeulders; Cunningham, Ferns, Impey, Townsend, Chambers, Heffernan, MacDougall, Butler, Massey, Miller.
Tranmere: Johnson; Parry, Mungall, Bramhall, Edwards, Evans, O'Neill, Craven, Kelly, Beamish (Mathias), Peplow.

BRADFORD C (0) 2 (Black 2)
WIGAN (1) 1 (Quinn) 6,123
Bradford C: Smith; Podd, Watson (Bates), Robertson, Baines, Thompson, Black, Dolan, Campbell, McNiven, Hutchins.
Wigan: Brown; Fretwell, McIver, Gore, Methven, Davids, Quinn, Wright, Houghton (Moore), Brownbill, Urquhart.

DARLINGTON (1) 2 (Stalker 2)
TORQUAY (0) 0 1,441
Darlington: Owers; Nattress, Cochrane, Ball, Craig, Smith, McLean, Charlton, Stalker, Hamilton, Walsh.
Torquay: Turner; Twitchin, Ritchie, Pethard, Bourne, Jones, Davies, Lawrence, Cooper, Wilson, Murphy.

DONCASTER (2) 5 (Bentley 2, Warboys 2, Mell)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 0 3,304
Doncaster: Peacock; Russell, Flanagan, Lister, Lally, Dowd, Bentley (Lewis), Little, Warboys, Snodin, Mell.
Scunthorpe: Gordon; Davy, Pilling, Deere, Dall, Kavanagh (Skipper), Pugh, Oates, Cammack, Partridge, Stewart.

HARTLEPOOL (0) 1 (Newton)
HALIFAX (0) 2 (Harris, Firth) 3,392
Hartlepool: Burleigh; Sweeney, Carr, Lawrence, Fagan, Ayre, Linacre, Gorry, Newton, Harding (Houchen), Hampton.
Halifax: Kilner; Dunleavy, Hutt, Evans, Harris, Hendrie, Firth, Kennedy, Allatt (Dryhurst), Smith, Whiteley.

HEREFORD (0) 0
PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (Syrett) 2,601
Hereford: Hughes; Price (McGrellis), Burrows, Spiring, Layton, Thomas, Feeley, Marshall, Binney, Jones, White.
Peterborough: Waugh; Carmichael, Phillips, Guy, Slough, Foster, Quow, Kellock (Robson), Cliss, Syrett, Cassells.

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 5 (Kindon, Stanton 3, Robins)
STOCKPORT (0) 0 7,561
Huddersfield: Rankin; Brown, Purdie, Stanton, Sutton, Hanvey, Laverick (Fletcher), Hart, Cowling, Kindon, Robins.
Stockport: Lawson; Thorpe, Rutter, Henson, Bradd, Czuczman, Booth, Chapman, Sword, Prudham, Coyle.

LINCOLN (1) 2 (Bell pen., Ramsey)
NEWPORT (1) 1 (Lowndes) 3,346
Lincoln: McManus; Thompson, Neale, Shipley, Peake, Carr, Hobson, Keeley, Harford, Ramsey, Bell.
Newport: Plumley; Walden (Aldridge), Relish, Bruton, Oakes, Bailey, Vaughan, Lowndes, Gwyther, Tynan, Moore.

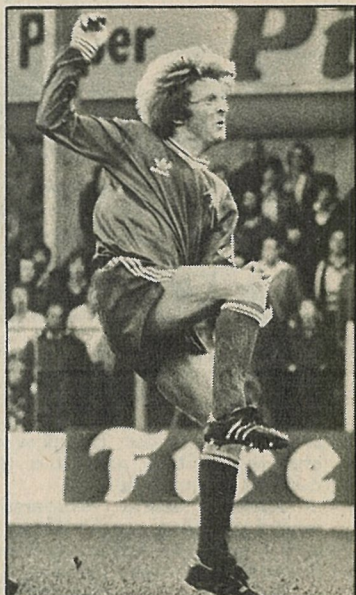
NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Saunders)
CREWE (0) 0 1,952
Northampton: Poole; Walker, Sandercock, Byatt, Gage, Farrington, Denyer, Sandy, McCaffrey, Farmer (Saunders), Sargent.
Crewe: Grobbelaar; Wilkinson, Bowers, Hunter, Scott, Prophett, McMahon, Guy, Davies, Palios, Nelson.

YORK (1) 1 (Hood)
PORTSMOUTH (0) 0 2,509
York: Crawford; Hood, Walsh, Pugh (Randall), Faulkner, Clements, Ferebee, Lorimer, Eccles, McDonald, McGhie.
Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Barnard, Aizlewood, Garner, Gregory, Laidlaw, Hemmerman (Perrin), Bryant, Rogers.

Scottish Cup

(Fourth Round)

ABERDEEN (4) 8 (Archibald 4, Strachan, Miller, McMaster, Scanlon)
AIRDRIE (0) 0 10,410
Aberdeen: Leighton; Kennedy, McMaster, Bell (Watson), Garner, Miller, Strachan, Archibald, Hamilton (Davidson), Jarvie, Scanlon.
Airdrie: McGarr; Erwin (Hamilton), Lapsley, Walker, March, Anderson, McClymont, Clark, McCulloch, Gordon, McKeown (McGuire).



Aberdeen goalscorer Gordon Strachan.

CELTIC (0) 1 (MacLeod)
ST MIRREN (1) 1 (McDougall) 32,000
Celtic: Latchford; Sneddon, McGrain, Aitken, McDonald, McAdam, Provan, Sullivan (McCluskey), Lennox, MacLeod, Doyle.
St Mirren: Thomson; Young, Munro, Richardson, Fulton, Copland, Bone, Stark, Somner, McDougall, Weir.

HEARTS (1) 2 (Shaw 2)
STIRLING (0) 0 5,979
Hearts: Brough; Robinson, Denny, Boyd, Liddell, Jeffries, Gibson, Fraser, O'Connor, Masterton, Shaw.
Stirling: Arthur; Nicol, Skilling, Irvine (Steadman), Kennedy (J), Moffat, McPhee, Beaton, Kennedy (A) (Young), Gray, Armstrong.

KEITH (1) 1 (O'Hara)
BERWICK (1) 2 (Smith D pen., Smith G) 5,530
Keith: Gray; Mackay, Martin, Dolgarno, Wilson, Fettes, Keir (Wisely), Duncan, Bremner, O'Hara, Curran.
Berwick: Davidson (K), Georgeson, McLeod, Mackay, Henderson, McDowall, Romaines, Wallace (Davidson P), Smith (G), Tait, Smith (D).

MORTON (0) 5 (Brown, Ritchie, Thomson, Mauchien, Tolmie)
DUNFERMLINE (0) 0 4,941
Morton: Baines; Hayes, Holmes, Miller (Scott), McLaren, Orr, Mauchien, Brown (Tolmie), Thomson, Hutchison, Ritchie.
Dunfermline: Whyte; Thomson, Mercer, Salton, Muir, Borthwick, McNaughton, Robertson, Leonard, Hegarty, O'Brien.

Q of S (0) 1 (Phillips)
PARTICK (2) 3 (Melrose 2, McAdam) 10,000
Q of S: Ball; Dickson, Cloy, Clark, Shields, McCann, Gordon (Mitchell), Phillips, Alexander, Coughlin, Robertson.
Partick: Rough; McKinnon, Whittaker, Campbell, McAdam, Anderson, Doyle, Melrose, O'Hara, Jardine (Gibson), Park.

RANGERS (0) 1 (Johnstone)
DUNDEE UTD (0) 0 25,000
Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Dawson, Miller, Forsyth (T), Stevens, Cooper, Russell, Johnstone, Smith (MacDonald A), MacDonald (J).
Dundee Utd: McAlpine; Phillip, Stark, Fleming, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Sturrock, Pettigrew, Holt, Payne (Kirkwood).

Scottish First

CLYDEBANK (1) 3 (Miller 3)
ARBROATH (0) 1 (Harley) 800

DUMBARTON (0) 0
ST JOHNSTONE (0) 1 (Brogan) 1,500

RAITH (1) 2 (Ford, Harrow)
HAMILTON (1) 1 (Fairlie pen.) 1,100

Scottish Second

ALBION (3) 4 (Browning 3, Campbell)
BRECHIN (0) 0 311

ALLOA (2) 3 (McLean 2, McIntosh)
COWDENBEATH (1) 2 (Forrest, Steele) 450

E. STIRLING (0) 1 (Blair)
STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 1 (Jenkins pen.) 450

FORFAR (1) 2 (Farningham, Clark)
FALKIRK (0) 0 1,500

MEADOWBANK (0) 0
QUEEN'S PARK (1) 2 (Gillespie M 2) 250

STRANRAER (0) 1 (Gibb)
MONTROSE (0) 1 (Forbes) 400

Irish League

ARDS (0) 2 (Foster, Hewitt pen.)
CRUSADERS (3) 5 (Byrne 2, Kennedy, King, Graham)
Ards: Craig; Cromie, Mowatt, McCoy, Walker, Hewitt, Martin, Foster, Alley, Reid.
Crusaders: McDonald; Thompson, Gorman, Mulhall, Gillespie, McPolin, Kennedy, Currie, King, Byrne, Rice.

CLIFTONVILLE (0) 1 (Mills)
COLERAINE (2) 3 (Beckett pen), Dickson, Moffatt)
Cliftonville: Johnston; McGuickin, Largey, Mills, Brown, Kingon, Hewitt (McAteer), McCusker, Bell, O'Connor, Holden.
Coleraine: Magee; McDowell (R), McNutt, Beckett, Hutton, McDowell (S), Mahon, Healey, Platt, Dickson, Moffatt.

DISTILLERY (1) 1 (Beattie o.g.)
BALLYMENA UNITED (1) 3 (McQuiston 2, Malone)
Distillery: Smith; Andrews, McGreevy, Keatley, McElhinney, McAuley, Kerr, Cowden, McAlinden, McMin, Coulter (Greer).
Ballymena Utd: White; Beattie, Worthington, McCullough, Jackson, McCall (Mullan (P)), Jess, Sloan, McQuiston, Malone, Mullan (G).

GLENAVON (0) 1 (Armstrong)
LINFIELD (1) 2 (McCurdy, Rafferty)
Glenavon: Lennox; Davey, Quinn, Sheppard, Clarke, McGuigan, McDonald, Kane, Armstrong, Tully, O'Kane (McCann).
Linfield: Dunlop; Barrett, Hayes, Jameson, Rafferty, McKeown, Nixon, McKee, McCurdy, Dornan, Anderson.

GLENTORAN (0) 1 (Porter)
BANGOR (0) 1 (Duddy)
Glentoran: Matthews; McCreery, Strain, Walsh, Moore, Gracey, Black (Jamison), McFall, Porter, Irvine, Carleton.
Bangor: Nicholson; Kennedy, McKim, Cummings, Bowden (Larmour), Rollins, Lennox, McLoughlin, McCoubrey, Barrett, Duddy.

LARNE (0) 0
PORTADOWN (2) 2 (Cleary, Quinn)
Larne: Coburn; McManus, Galloway, Graham, Carland, Donaghy, Barclay (McAuley), Wilson, Doran, Higgins, Adair.
Portadown: McCallum; Smyth, Edgar, Topley, Kilburn, Cleary, Gordon, Donegan, Alexander, Campbell, Quinn.

Sunday, February 17

Scottish Cup

(Fourth Round)

HIBS (1) 2 (Lambie, MacLeod)
AYR (0) 0 15,000
Hibs: McArthur; Brazil, Lambie, Rae, Paterson, McNamara, Callaghan, MacLeod, Higgins (Duncan), Campbell, Murray.
Ayr: Rennie; McColl (Love), Nichol, McSherry, McAllister, Fleeting, Frye, Armour, Morris, Connor, Christie.

League of Ireland

ATHLONE TOWN (4) 6 (Fullam, Davis 2, P. O'Connor 2, Clarke)

GALWAY ROVERS (0) 0
Athlone Town: Smyth; Feniuk (O'Connor (M)), Fullam, McCue, Conway (T) (Conway (J)), O'Connor (P), Larkin, Clarke, Wyse, Devlin, Davis.
Galway Rovers: Ward; Herrick, Sheehan, Murphy, McDaid, Mannion, McLaughlin (Daly), Nolan, Quinlivan, Cassidy, Bonner (Gaynor).

BOHEMIANS (3) 3 (Eviston 2, O'Riordan)
UCD (0) 0
Bohemians: Byrne (W); Whelan, Brady, Kelly, Keogh, O'Riordan, Lawless, McCormack, Byrne (M), Joyce, Eviston.
UCD: McCabe; Courtney, Fox, Doyle, McDonnell, McGovern, Cassidy, Moran, Drury, Dignam, Murphy.

CORK UNITED (0) 0
WATERFORD (0) 0
Cork Utd: Ludzic; Punch, Sheehan, Madden, Brohan, Nodwell, Keane, Neiland, Waters, McCarthy, Lane.
Waterford: Thomas; O'Mahony, Gardiner, Finucane, Dunphy, Meagan (Hall), Kirk, Madigan, Keane (A), McCarthy, Keane (T).

DUNDALK (1) 3 (Duff 2, Flanagan)
ST PATRICK'S ATH (0) 0
Dundalk: Blackmore; McConville, Lawlor, Keely, Downing, Flanagan, Byrne, Daly, Duff, Braddish, Harkin.
St. Pat's Ath: Grace; Higgins, Daly, O'Connor, Roche, Hughes (Malone), Wright, Barron (Kirwan), Jameson, O'Donnell, Hynes.

HOME FARM (1) 1 (Craig)
THURLES TOWN (0) 0
Home Farm: Finnerty; Maher, King, Breslin, Brady, Williams, Cervi, Neville, Craig, Archbold, McCluskey.
Thurles Town: Dalton; Doran, McQuaid, O'Brien, Tierney, Heffernan, Jordan (Steedman), Lawson, Lyons, Sheehy, Ingoldsby.

LIMERICK UNITED (2) 4 (Morris 2 (1 pen), Delamere, Duggan)
SHELBORNE (0) 0
Limerick Utd: Fitzpatrick; Ryan, O'Mahony, Storan, McDonnell, Nolan, Meaney, Walsh, Morris, Delamere (Kennedy), Duggan.
Shelbourne: Dunne; Carney, Moody, Cleary, Dillon, McMahon, Martin, Gavin, Donnelly, Nugent, Byrne.

SHAMROCK ROVERS (2) 2 (Buckley, Campbell)
FINN HARPS (0) 0
Shamrock Rovers: O'Neill; Kenny, O'Leary, Synnott, Burke (Byrne (T)), Treacy, Gannon, Gaffney, Byrne (E), Campbell, Buckley.
Finn Harps: McDermott; Ferry, McDowell, Sheridan, Monagle (Blake), Logan, McElwaine, Duffy, McCool (Monaghan), Minnock, McGrory.

SLIGO ROVERS (0) 1 (Bradley)
DROGHEDA UNITED (1) 1 (Myers)
Sligo Rovers: Patterson; Fielding, O'Doherty (G), Fagan (Sheridan), Rutherford, Stenson, Patton, Skeffington, Bradley, O'Doherty (D), Kavanagh (McLoughlin).
Drogheda Utd: Forrestal; Haughey, Cameron, Myers, Ferguson, Freney, Doran, Campbell, Byrne, Tuite, Carthy.

Tuesday, February 19

F.A. Cup

(Fifth Round replay)

ARSENAL (2) 3 (Sunderland 2, Stapleton)
BOLTON (0) 0 40,614
Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Sunderland, Price, Stapleton, Rix.
Bolton: McDonagh; Clement, Walsh, Greaves, Allardyce (Thompson), Gowing, Morgan, Whatmore, Carter, Cantello, Reid.

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

First Division

BRISTOL C (0) 2 (Ritchie, Rodgers)
EVERTON (1) 1 (Ross) 15,119
Bristol C: Cashley, Sweeney, Whitehead, Gow, Rodgers, Merrick, Pritchard, Fitzpatrick, Royle, Ritchie, Tainton.
Everton: Hodge, Gidman, Bailey, Wright, Lyons, Ross, Megson, Eastoe, Hartford, Kidd, McBride.

IPSWICH (2) 3 (Gates, Wark, Brazil)
C. PALACE (0) 0 23,012
Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil, Gates.
C. Palace: Burridge; Hinshelwood, Sansom, Nicholas, Cannon, Gilbert, Murphy, Francis, Walsh, Flanagan, Lilaire.

LIVERPOOL (0) 2 (McDermott, Kennedy R)
NOTTM FOREST (0) 0 45,093
Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Fairclough, McDermott, Souness.
Nottm. Forest: Shilton; Anderson, Gray, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Neill, Bowyer, Birtles, Francis, Robertson.

Second Division

BURNLEY (0) 0
WEST HAM (1) 1 (Devonshire) 10,610
Burnley: Stevenson; Arins, Brennan, Burke (Cavener), Ovsen (V), Dixon, James, Dobson, Hamilton, Young, Smith.
West Ham: Parkes; Lampard, Brush, Stewart, Martin, Devonshire, Allen, Neighbour, Cross, Brooking, Pike.

OLDHAM (0) 1 (Atkinson)
WATFORD (0) 1 (Bolton) 7,530
Oldham: Platt; Wood, Holt, Kowenicki, Clements, Hurst, Valentine, Halom, Steel, Stainrod, Atkinson.
Watford: Steele; Henderson, Harrison, Patching, Sims, Bolton, Blissett, Poskett, Jenkins, Train, Rostrom.

Third Division

WIMBLEDON (2) 3 (Leslie 2, Parsons)
PLYMOUTH (0) 1 (Kemp pen) 3,488
Wimbledon: Beasant; Briley, Jones, Galliers, Smith, Cunningham, Ketteridge, Parsons, Leslie, Cork, Lewington.
Plymouth: Crudington; James, Harrison, Randall, Foster, Phillipson-Masters, Hodges, Cooper, Sims, Basom, Kemp.

Fourth Division

WALSALL (1) 2 (Paul, Waddington)
ROCHDALE (0) 0
Walsall: Turner; Macken, Mower, Sbragia, Serella, Paul, Penn, Waddington, McDonough, Buckley, Caswell (Williams).
Rochdale: Watson; Hart, Weir, Scaife, Waldron, Taylor, Esser, O'Loughlin, Jones, Seal, Hilditch.

Wednesday, Feb 20

F.A. Cup

(Fifth Round replay)

ASTON VILLA (0) 1 (Evans) 42,161
BLACKBURN (0) 0
Aston Villa: Rimmer; Swain, Gibson, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Little, Donovan, Cowans, Geddis (Ormsby).
Blackburn: Arnold; Branagan, Rathbone, Kendall, Keeley, Fazackerley, Brotherton, Crawford, Gardner, McKenzie, Parkes.

Second Division

LEICESTER (1) 1 (Henderson) 17,597
SWANSEA (1) 1 (Toshack)
Leicester: Wallington; Williams, Scott, Kelly, May, O'Neill, Strickland (Buchanan), Henderson, Young, Wilson, Smith.
Swansea: Stewart; Robinson, Rushbury, Phillips, Stevenson, Giles, Craig, James, Charles, Toshack, Callaghan.

NEWCASTLE (0) 0
BIRMINGHAM (0) 0 28,038
Newcastle: Hardwick; Carney, Davies, Cassidy, Boam, Mitchell, Shoulder, Cartwright, Withe, Cropley (Rafferty), Connolly.
Birmingham: Wealds; Broadhurst, Dennis, Curbishley, Gallagher, Todd, Ainscow, Worthington, Bertschin, Gemmill, Lynex.

Third Division

CHESTER (0) 1 (Rush) 3,765
CARLISLE (0) 0
Chester: Millington; Jeffries, Walker, Storton, Cottam, Oakes, Sutcliffe, Jones, Rush, Phillips, Henderson.
Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, McDonald, Ludlam, Winstanley, McVitie, Bonnyman, Beardsley (Bannon), Hamilton, Staniforth.

READING (0) 1 (Sanchez)
ROTHERHAM (0) 1 (Rhodes) 5,208
Reading: Death; Henderson, White, Bowman, Hetzke, Moreline, Earles, Williams (Wanklyn), Kearns, Sanchez, Webb.
Rotherham: Ogden; Forrest, Brecklin, Tiler, Stancliffe, Green, Gooding, McEwan, Dawson, Rhodes, Fern.

Fourth Division

PORT VALE (2) 2 (Farrell, Sealy)
CREWE (0) 0 6,655
Port Vale: Dance; Keenan, Griffiths, Elsbey, Harwood, Sproson, Beech, Farrell, Wright, Sealy, Chamberlain (N).
Crewe: Grobbelaar; Wilkinson, Bowers, Hunter, Scott, Prophet, Lewis (Coyne), Guy, Conroy, Palios, Nelson.

Scottish Cup

(Fourth Round replay)

ST MIRREN (1) 2 (Bone, Somner)
CELTIC (1) 3 (Doyle 2, Lennox pen) a.e.t. 27,166
St Mirren: Thomson; Young, Munro, Richardson, Fulton, Copland, Bone, Stark, Somner, McDougall (Docherty), Weir.
Celtic: Latchford; Sneddon, McGrain, Aitken, McDonald, McAdam, Provan, McCluskey, Lennox, MacLeod, Doyle.

Scottish First

AIRDRIE (0) 3 (McGuire, Lapsley pen, Clark)
CLYDEBANK (1) 1 (McCormack pen) 3,500
Cowdenbeath (0) 0
E. STIRLING (1) 1 (Blair) 250

Friday, February 22

Third Division

COLCHESTER (1) 2 (Rowles, Leslie)
SOUTHEND (1) 1 (Spence) 6,135
Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Leslie, Wignall, Downman, Rowles, Gough, Foley, Lee, Wright.
Southend: Cawston; Moody, Yates, Nelson (Walker), Dudley, Cusack, Gray, Pountney, Spencer, Mercer, Otulakowski.

Fourth Division

STOCKPORT (1) 2 (Sword pen, Todd o.g.)
BRADFORD C (1) 2 (Black, McNiven) 3,872
Stockport: Lawson; Rutter, Sherlock, Thorpe, Bradd, Edwards, Williams, Prudham, Sword, Chapman, Coyile.
Bradford C: Smith; Dodd, Wood, Robertson (Bates), Baines, Cooper, Black, Dolan, Campbell, McNiven, Hutchins.
TRANMERE (0) 0
NEWPORT (1) 2 (Vaughan 2, 1 pen) 2,056
Tranmere: Johnson; Parry, Mungall, Bramhall, Edwards, Evans, O'Neil, Craven, Kelly, Beamish, Pappow (Mathias).
Newport: Plumley; Walden, Relish, Bruton (D), Oakes, Davies, Vaughan, Lowndes, Gwyther, Aldridge, Moore.

Saturday, February 23

First Division

ARSENAL (1) 2 (Young, Stapleton)
BOLTON (0) 0 24,383
Arsenal: Jennings; Rice (Vaessen), Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Price, Rix.
Bolton: McDonagh; Clement, Burke, Nicholson, Jones, Walsh, Nowak, Whatmore, Thompson, Wilson, Reid.

COVENTRY (2) 3 (Thompson 2, English)
SOUTHAMPTON (0) 0 18,034
Coventry: Blyth; Coop, McDonald, Gooding, Dyson, Gillespie, Hutchison, English, Thompson, Blair, Hunt.
Southampton: Wells; Golach, Waldron, Baker, Watson, Peach, Ball, Boyer, Channon, Holmes, George.

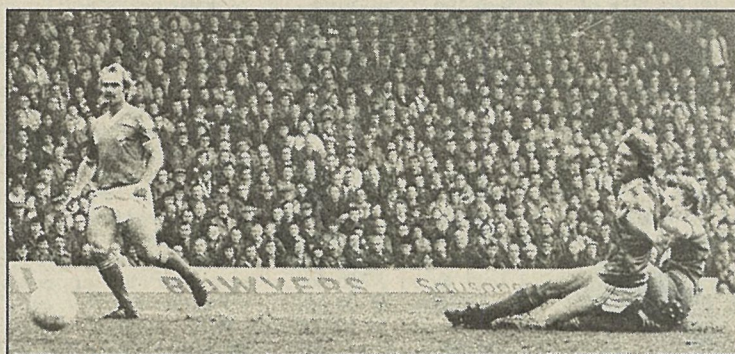
C. PALACE (0) 1 (Walsh)
EVERTON (0) 1 (Eastoe) 22,857
C. Palace: Burridge; Hinshelwood, Fenwick, Nicholas, Cannon, Gilbert, Murphy, Francis, Walsh, Flanagan, Hilaire.
Everton: Hodge; Wright, Bailey, Nulty, Lyons, Ross, Megson, Eastoe, Hartford, Kidd, McBride.

DERBY (1) 2 (McCaffrey, Biley)
TOTTENHAM (0) 1 (Galvin) 21,183
Derby: Cherry; Langan, Buckley, McCaffrey, McFarland, Webb (Osgood), Emery, Powell (B), Biley, Davies, Emson.
Tottenham: Kendall; Hughton, Miller, Pratt, McAllister, Perryman, Ardiles, Falco, Armstrong, Hoddle, Beavon (Galvin).

LEEDS (0) 1 (Foster o.g.)
BRIGHTON (0) 1 (Ward) 17,216

Leeds: Lukic; Stevenson, Cherry, Flynn, Firm, Greenhoff (Hamson), Gray, Hird, Connor, Hampton, Graham.
Brighton: Moseley; Gregory, Williams, Horton, Foster, Suddaby (Ryan), McNab, Ward, Clarke, Lawrenson, O'Sullivan.

LIVERPOOL (1) 1 (Fairclough)
IPSWICH (0) 1 (Gates) 47,566
Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Fairclough, McDermott, Souness.
Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil (McCall), Gates.



Liverpool's David Fairclough (right) scores against Ipswich.

MAN. UTD. (3) 4 (Jordan 2, McIlroy, Merrick o.g.)
BRISTOL C (0) 0 43,239
Man. Utd: Bailey; Nicholl, Houston, McIlroy, McQueen (Ritchie), Buchan, Coppell, Wilkins, Jordan, Macari, Grimes.
Bristol C: Cashley; Sweeney, Whitehead, Gow, Rodgers, Merrick, Pritchard, Fitzpatrick, Royle (Mabbutt), Ritchie, Tainton.

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1 (Burns)
STOKE (2) 3 (Cook, Crooks 2) 15,953
Middlesbrough: Platt; Craggs, Johnson, Hedley (Natrass), Ashcroft, McAndrew, Cochrane, Proctor, Hodgson, Burns, Armstrong.
Stoke: Fox; Evans, Johnson (P), Richardson, Smith, Dodd, Heath, Irvine, Cook, Crooks, Chapman.

NORWICH (0) 0
WOLVES (2) 4 (Hibbitt 2 pens., Eves, Richards) 17,063
Norwich: Hansbury; Bond, Downs, Mendham, Brown, Jones, Goble, Reeves, Fashanu, Paddon, Peters.
Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hughes, Berry, Hibbitt, Carr, Gray, Richards, Eves.

NOTTM. FOREST (1) 4 (Francis 3, Burns)
MAN. CITY (0) 0 27,255
Nottm. Forest: Shilton; Anderson, Gray, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Neill, Bowles, Birtles, Francis, Robertson.
Man. City: Corrigan; Ranson, Donachie, Reid, Caton, Booth, Henry, Robinson, Palmer, Power, Bennett.

W.B.A. (1) 1 (Robson)
ASTON VILLA (0) 2 (McNaught, Little) 33,658
W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Pendrey, Moses, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Deehan, Barnes.
Aston Villa: Rimmer; Swain, Gibson, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Morley, Little, Bremner, Cowans, Shaw.

Second Division

BIRMINGHAM (1) 2 (Dillon, Evans)
WREXHAM (0) 0 19,306
Birmingham: Wealds; Broadhurst, Dennis, Curbishley, Gallagher, Todd, Ainscow, Gemmill (Evans), Bertschin, Lynex, Dillon.
Wrexham: Davies; Darracott, Jones (Hill), Davis, Roberts, Fox, Vinter, Sutton, Edwards, McNeil, Carrodus.

BRISTOL R (1) 3 (Penny 2, Pulis)
CHELSEA (0) 0 14,176
Bristol R: Thomas; Jones, Cooper, Aitken, Taylor, Prince (Emmanuel), Barrowclough, Williams, Penny, Mabbutt, Pulis.
Chelsea: Iles; Locke, Rofe, Langley, Pates, Chivers, Britton, Fillery, Frost, Walker, Harris.

CAMBRIDGE (0) 1 (Finney)
CHARLTON (0) 0 5,120
Cambridge: Webster; Donaldson, Buckley, Stringer (Turner), Fallon, O'Neill, Streete, Spriggs, Finney, Gibson, Murray.
Charlton: Johns; Hazell, Warman, Campbell, Berry, Madden, Tydeman, Ostergaard, Hales, Walker, Gritt.

CARDIFF (1) 2 (Pontin, Stevens)
BURNLEY (0) 1 (Hamilton) 6,358
Cardiff: Healey; Dwyer, Lewis, Campbell, Pontin, Thomas, Grapes, Bishop (Stevens), Moore, Ronson, Micallef.
Burnley: Stevenson; Arins, Brennan, Robinson, Dixon, Rodaway, Burke, James, Hamilton, Young, Smith.

FULHAM (1) 1 (Lock pen)
SWANSEA (1) 2 (James, Craig pen) 6,145
Fulham: Peyton; Money (Peters), Strong, Lock, Banton, Gale, Gayle, Beck, Davies, Maybank, Marinello.
Swansea: Stewart; Robinson, Rushbury, Phillips, Stevenson, Giles, Craig, James, Charles, Toshack, Callaghan.

OLDHAM (0) 1 (Halom)
NOTTS CO (0) 0 7,261
Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Holt, Kowenicki, Clements, Hurst, Valentine, Halom, Steel, Stainrod, Atkinson.
Notts Co: Avramovic; Benjamin, O'Brien, Hunt, Stubbs, Blockley, Doherty, Masson, Hooks, Mair (Kilcine), Christie.

PRESTON (0) 0
Q.P.R. (1) 3 (Allen, Roeder, Goddard) 10,350
Preston: Tunks; Taylor (Houston), McAteer, Doyle, Anderson, Blackley, Bell, Coleman, Elliott, Naughton, Bruce.
Q.P.R.: Woods; Shanks, Gillard, McCreery, Hazell, Wicks, Goddard, Roeder, Allen, Currie, Burke.

SHREWSBURY (2) 3 (Maguire, King, Biggins)
NEWCASTLE (0) 1 (Shoulder pen) 10,833
Shrewsbury: Wardle; King, Leonard, Turner, Griffin, Keay, Tong, Atkins, Biggins, Dungworth, Maguire.
Newcastle: Hardwick; Brownlie, Carney, Mitchell, Cropley (Connolly), Boam, Shoulder, Rafferty, Withe, Hibbitt, Cartwright.

SUNDERLAND (0) 1 (Cooke)
LUTON (0) 0 25,387
Sunderland: Turner; Whitworth, Hinnigan, Clarke, Hindmarch, Elliott (Dunn), Arnott, Marangoni, Cooke, Robson, Cummins.
Luton: Findlay; Stephens, Donaghy, Greulich, Saxby, Price, Hill, West, Stein, Hutton, Moss.

WATFORD (0) 0
ORIENT (2) 3 (Jennings, Chiedozie, Coates) 15,144
Watford: Steele; Henderson, Harrison, Patching, Sims, Bolton, Blissett, Poskett (Booth), Jenkins, Train, Rostrom.
Orient: Day; Fisher, Roffey, Taylor, Gray, Hughton, Chiedozie, Jennings, Mayo, Margerrison, Coates.

WEST HAM (0) 3 (Pike, Cross, Holland)
LEICESTER (1) 1 (Young) 27,762
West Ham: Parkes; Lampard, Brush, Stewart, Martin, Devonshire, Allen, Holland, Cross, Brooking, Pike.
Leicester: Wallington; Williams, Scott, Kelly, May, O'Neill, Goodwin, Henderson, Young, Peake, Smith.

Third Division

BRENTFORD (0) 2 (Booker, Saloman)
BLACKPOOL (0) 1 (Pashley) 6,400
Brentford: Bond; Saloman, Tucker, McNicol, Kruse, Fraser, Alder, Parkinson, Shrubbs (Booker), Graham, Phillips.
Blackpool: Hesford; Malone, Pashley, Noble, Thompson, Doyle, Morris, Kellow, Bamber (Gardner), Harrison, Weston.

BURY (0) 0
MANSFIELD (2) 2 (Pollard, Austin) 3,606
Bury: Forrest, Ritson (Taylor), Constantine, Waddington, Howard, Waldron, Kennedy, McIlwraith, Johnson, Madden, Halford.
Mansfield: Arnold; Dawkins, Mann, Curtis, Burrows, McClelland, Miller, Pollard, Austin, Hamilton, Allen.

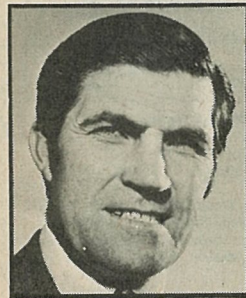
THE GREAT UNPREDICTABLES STILL FULL OF SURPRISES

PARTICK THISTLE used to be known as the 'Great Unpredictables' because of their uncanny knack of upsetting the formbook.

It was Bertie Auld's main aim to rid the club of that tag when he took over five seasons ago. He wanted the team to attain consistency and he has certainly achieved that.

Off the field, though, that label takes on a whole new meaning and Bertie Auld is not complaining.

Just before the transfer deadline there were rumours linking Colin McAdam and Jim Melrose with Rangers. There were also whispers that an English club was poised to make a move for stylish left-back Brian Whittaker.



Bertie Auld

Quietly, Auld listened to all those stories, but just before the deadline arrived there was a rush of transfer activity at Firhill. No one left, however. Instead two new players arrived... and there might have been a third!

At the last minute Auld swooped for Hibs' versatile and talented striker Tony Higgins and took him to Partick for a bargain £25,000. He might have been content with congratulating himself for that piece of business when he moved again into the market.

This time the target was Airdrie's John Lapsley, and again the persuasive tongue of Auld paid off. He offered £35,000 for the Broomfield player and, after haggling, the deal went through.

The one that got away was Aberdeen's nonsense centre-half Willie Garner. Auld agreed to pay Aberdeen £70,000 for the defender and his opposite number Alex Ferguson accepted.

However, Garner rejected the move and said: "It was tempting, but my family have settled in the north and I want to remain at Pittodrie. I may be out of the first team at the moment, but I'm determined to fight my way back in again."

Auld says: "There's always talk about one club or another looking at my players and I suppose that is a compliment, but I am always watching for opportunities to strengthen my team."

"Tony Higgins and John Lapsley are the kind of players I want at Partick. I got them at realistic prices and I'm sure they will do a good job for us in the future."

The move for Higgins was a complete surprise. He had been at Easter Road for eight years and looked settled, but when the club bought Robert Torrance from St. Mirren they found that their versatile star was surplus to their requirements and Auld was quick to bring the player back to his home town of Glasgow.

Lapsley, a left-sided player who has operated in a midfield role, was also happy to go to Thistle and he says: "I enjoyed my years with Airdrie and I hope they get promoted, but I couldn't turn down this opportunity of going straight to a Premier Division club."

Auld has worked well in the transfer market, buying wisely and selling intelligently. He knows the club does not have a lot of money, but he has kept their heads above water in the highly competitive Scottish Premier Division.

Whether Auld will have to sell to balance the Partick books remains to be seen, but with the 'Great Unpredictable' around, anything could happen at Firhill!



Tony Higgins (right) on the attack for Hibs before his recent £25,000 transfer to Partick Thistle.



MacLEOD'S MOTHERWELL ON THE MOVE

ALLY MacLEOD no longer searches for a platform from which to deliver sermons to the intrigued Scottish soccer public.

The miseries of Argentina in '78 when his Scottish side became the laughing stock of the World Cup Finals after all the promises of glory and fame bit deeply on this extrovert.

He almost became a soccer recluse, shying away from the Press and the limelight. Ally MacLeod has learned a bitter lesson and obviously the man is better prepared for anything the future and football can throw at him.

The hangers-on left him to fend for himself. MacLeod accepted the criticism — which was sometimes far too severe — and has gone about his business as manager of Motherwell in a quiet fashion, keeping well away from Muhammad Ali-type promises.

"At one stage we were battling against relegation," he says, "but we didn't change our style."

'Attacked'

"We didn't go defensive and try to play it safe. Motherwell still attacked, and I would like to think the fans got their money's worth when they came to watch us."

"Actually the First Division is very competitive. Every game is a hard one, believe me. It doesn't matter whether you are playing Hearts at the top or someone else at the bottom."

"There are a lot of good teams in this Division and modesty forbids me from saying Motherwell are the best of the lot!"

MacLeod has done extremely well with the team that nosedived out of the Premier Division. "I appointed David Hay as my assistant because he is completely different from myself," says MacLeod. "I may tend to get excited while Davie is quiet and reserved. It gives us a balance. I'm the bad guy and he's the good one!"

MacLeod and Hay may be seen as 'The Odd Couple' in Scottish soccer, but although they may present different images to the fans, their thinking is certainly along the same wavelength. They want success for Motherwell and they don't want to wait too long for it either!

Ally MacLeod has proved he still has a lot to offer. He doesn't want to be remembered as the man who led Scotland to doom and disaster in the World Cup Finals.

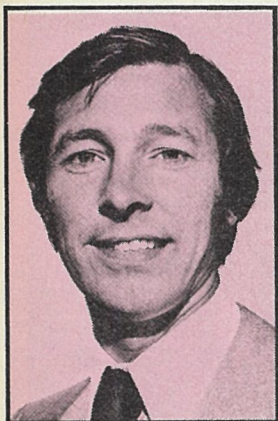
This time he is going the right way about his business. Soccer is not a game for the sentimentalist, but surely the fans must wish Ally MacLeod a little piece of good fortune in his efforts to rebuild the Motherwell team.

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'MORE PROTECTION FOR ROUGVIE!'



**declares
his boss
Alex
Ferguson**

WHEN a manager makes a plea for protection for one of his players you could be forgiven for thinking he is making the appeal on behalf of a delicately-skilled, multi-talented forward.

Doug Rougvie, Aberdeen's towering defender, certainly does not come into the delicate category, but his Pittodrie boss Alex Ferguson believes he should be given protection by referees!

"Rougvie is 6ft 3in and is 14st 10lb of solid muscle," says Fergie, "but he is one of the least physical players in the game. If he hits someone it's obvious they are going to feel it, and because of his size he is a natural target for abuse by fans of the opposing team.

"But he isn't dirty. If anything, he should be given more protection by match officials!

"I feel this has to be said in his defence because the lad's career is suffering. He isn't improving as fast as I expected because he thinks about every tackle before he makes it. He is afraid to trust his instincts.

"I don't like to see such a thing happen to a fine young player such as Rougvie. He is popular with the other players and they realise what he gives the team in terms of enthusiasm and commitment.

"But people will have to get rid of the notion he is just a big, hard defender. He has a lot more to offer. I just hope he gets the break he deserves in the near future."

Rougvie, who has already collected three suspensions in a brief career, is a fearsome figure in full flight, but, like his manager Ferguson says, he is not a dirty player. He is one of the hardest back-four tacklers in the Premier Division, but football is a man's game after all



and Rougvie's determination to win 50-50 balls should not be mistaken for being deliberately intimidating.

The player has had several disappointments and the major one must be his sensational

ordering-off against Rangers in last season's League Cup Final at Hampden.

It looked as though the giant defender was in line for his first Cup winner's medal when teammate Duncan Davidson put The Dons ahead, but the roof fell in on Aberdeen after that.

Goalkeeper Bobby Clark injured an arm in clearing a high ball and then late in the game a low shot from Alex MacDonald hit John McMaster and zipped into the net with the heroic Clark making a desperate attempt to clear.

Worse was to come when Rougvie and Derek Johnstone tangled in an off-the-ball incident minutes from time. No one saw the incident properly, but Johnstone went down and Rougvie was ordered off. To this day he has said he never touched the Rangers captain.

He might have felt that was rough justice, but right on the stroke of full-time a high ball came over from the right-wing and Colin Jackson headed in the winner for the Ibrox club.

Crucial

Rougvie doesn't like to talk about the match, but he must have been happier this season when he scored a crucial goal against Rangers when Aberdeen beat their Ibrox rivals 3-1 in a League match at Pittodrie.

Rougvie has got a lot to offer football and referees will have to take everything into account if one of his tackles isn't perfectly timed and an opponent is sent spinning.

"I've never set out to injure an opposing player and I won't ever change," says Rougvie. "I play football to win, but I want success fairly."

Rougvie has moved around the Aberdeen back-four this season and has even had a spell at left-back, but obviously, because of his size and his amazing ability in the air, he is best suited to a centre-half role.

"There are no favourites at Pittodrie," says Rougvie. "If you do a good job you get a first team place. If you don't, you can expect no sympathy. Football is a tough game."

MANCHESTER UNITED



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LIVERPOOL





ALLAN EVANS
Aston Villa

SHOOT!

Number two in our absorbing series of exclusive interviews with the men who will lead their countries in Italy this June.

'BEING UNKNOWN COULD HELP US'



our draw in Hungary in between three home wins (8-1 v Finland, 4-1 v Hungary, 1-0 v U.S.S.R.) is obviously a positive outcome. Take notice of the way we lost in Helsinki. I wouldn't like to give excuses, yet we played there on May 28th at the end of a hard and strenuous season, while the Finns were at their peak. Besides, we didn't have a settled side at the time. Overall, I feel satisfied with the way we qualified.

SHOOT: People in England know little at all about the Greek national side. Will being the least known team in the Finals be an advantage?

MAVROS: Yes and no. Yes, because being an unknown, small quantity may well be in our favour. Managers and players in Europe have been stating we are destined to fall as easy prey to the Goliaths of football. However, don't forget

SHOOT: It came as something of a shock when Greece qualified for the European Championship Finals. Was it a surprise to the Greek fans?

MAVROS: No, I don't think so. We had been trying for a long time to earn international recognition, so we couldn't say it surprised us when we qualified. From the F.A., the manager, coaches, players and down to the most die-hard supporter it was just a matter of time. It was a dream waiting to come true. Naturally we were all disappointed to start the series of the Finals with two defeats, both away from home. We lost heart when we crashed 3-0 to Finland in Helsinki, but we were disgusted by our setback in Russia for it was imposed under miserable conditions. Anyway, the end justifies the means and we earned our qualification

amid a triumphant atmosphere by overcoming the U.S.S.R. at home, in the last tie of the series. It was the greatest moment in our football history, spanning more than 100 years.

SHOOT: Your group was astonishing, with everyone beating everyone else. You qualified without winning an away tie. What are your comments on the way you qualified?

MAVROS: No one can deny the fact we've built a completely young side. Under those circumstances



THOMAS MAVROS
Greece



Greece line-up before the game against France.



Mavros (white strip) is beaten to the ball by French defender Tusseau.

an important saying in football: never underestimate your opponent. If you do that, you are a loser straight from the dressing-room! For our own sake, though, I hope they'll continue with their predictions till the very end! On the other hand it might be proved useful for, as is widely known, when a Greek is regarded second-class he has such a courage deep at heart to become the strongest man in the world. No, because we'll be up against seven giants in the true sense of the word. We, in particular, have to face the twice World Champions West Germany, the twice beaten Finalists Holland, and the holders of the trophy Czechoslovakia. It speaks for itself. Despite all the difficulties it could encourage us more, as we know we'll have to put up with tremendous fights all over these hectic 270 minutes. We are ready to prove our rise was not a mere flash in the pan, against real institutions of football.

SHOOT: Tell us something about yourself. How long have you been playing? What honours have you won? How many caps do you have?

Continued overleaf

Continued from previous page

MAVROS: I will be 26 this month. I play for A.E.K. Athens, current Champions. I have won two Championship medals with them, one F.A. Cup winners' medal and have 26 full caps. I've also played for the Under-18, Under-21 and the Greek National Army sides. Last season I won the Adidas Silver Boot Award for being second-top scorer in Europe.

SHOOT: What is the style of the Greek team? What are your strengths? Who are the players who could catch our eye in Italy?

MAVROS: I would say it's representative of the Mediterranean style, being a mixture of French, Italian and Spanish game influenced by the Saxon type (English-German). The foreign papers have written, and quite rightly I think, that we're fast, strong and never give up easily. On the other hand we do have weaknesses. As in almost all aspects of life we tend to be frivolous. And this could be fatal during difficult situations. That's what I fear most. Nevertheless, this mixture of styles, if operating properly, may be proved the best. It combines almost everything. As regards players to catch the eye... well, we play for each other, and that's the best policy. We'd like to avoid individuals at this stage of the competition, at least.

SHOOT: With all respect, Greece won't win the Championship. What would you say would be success for Greece in Italy? What are your aims?

MAVROS: Although we can't say anything for certain, to find ourselves in the top four in Europe could be considered seriously as success. After all, any of the eight participants should feel content if they were told they'll definitely be in the top four. So, why shouldn't Greece? Our aim is one and only. To serve the fans all over the Continent with good football. We'd dearly like to be everybody's side. Every neutral's side, that is!

SHOOT: What was your reaction to the draw?

MAVROS: Without underestimating anyone, I can undoubtedly say we've been put into the most difficult group. West Germany have always been a major force, Czechoslovakia are the holders and are quite capable of repeating their triumph of four years ago and Holland apparently THE side to be watched in the previous decade.

SHOOT: Who do you think will win your group?

MAVROS: Nothing is certain, but because a lot of people are interested in forecasts, I'd say Holland or West Germany.

SHOOT: And the other group?

MAVROS: The same applies to this one, too. I'll go for Italy or England.

Greek striker Anastasiadis may pose a few problems in Italy.



SHOOT: And the Final?

MAVROS: Even more complication! Italy look a good bet, due to home advantage.

SHOOT: The previous European Championship in 1976 was of the highest standard. Do you think the overall standard in Europe has declined since then? If so, why is this?

MAVROS: As far as the overall standard is concerned well... I think it has declined a little. For me, it is down to the lack of great forces who could provide national sides not only with single players but with whole 'departments'. For example, Ajax could supply Holland with all of its midfield or attack. Besides, there aren't any great individuals around any more. Is there any Beckenbauer, Muller, or Overath in Germany now?

SHOOT: How highly do rate the current England side? Which players do you admire most?



MAVROS: I can safely say that English football is more than well-known in Greece! We're even divided into groups of supporters for every side in the League! I know people who support THIRD Division clubs, who know even the Christian names of each player. That's because our television shows League soccer twice a week, two or three matches and comments, charts, details... everything. We admire English football in general. My own favourites are Manchester United. I like to watch Steve Coppell. He possesses the lot; an accomplished footballer. Sammy McIlroy is a very much underrated player, a real workhorse. Regarding the national side, I think Mr. Greenwood is more of a psychologist than a manager. He's instilled faith into his players and I have a message for English fans. Start believing in your team and feel optimistic. The current English side is quite capable for the honours of the highest level.

SHOOT: Would you like to be the referee for England/Italy?

MAVROS: I haven't considered taking up the job!

SHOOT: Is this the start of a new era for Greek football or just a flash in the pan?

MAVROS: After all I have said, I want to believe it's a bright new era.

SHOOT: What sort of Finals will it be? Tactical? Offensive? Defensive? Tough? Boring?

MAVROS: I must exclude the last one. As a matter of fact, I feel every side will give more emphasis to tactics. Expediency games should be expected. We are interested in what our team will be and how it will fare. To cap it all I think that at least in the Final and the mini-Final (third place) quality soccer is guaranteed.

SHOOT: If you have one wish for the Finals, what is it?

MAVROS: Half the world's population will watch the games. So good football is just what they deserve.

SHOOT: We'll risk one more question, Thomas. It's a sizzling one. Just because Greece is considered as a minor soccer force, do you think that the referees won't favour you in crucial moments of a serious clash?

MAVROS: Good question. You've put me on the spot here. I'd like to believe the refereeing standard will live up to expectations. I am not saying anything else. Let's just keep our fingers crossed.

SHOOT: Finally, which players do you think will catch the eye?

MAVROS: I'd say Rummenigge, and Neumann from West Germany, Kist and Brandts from Holland, Keegan, Francis and Coppell from England, Nehoda from Czechoslovakia, Firos and Galakos from us, Bettiga and Antognoni from Italy.

Greece met West Germany in the previous European Championship qualifying section and did well, holding the Germans to a 1-1 draw in Germany. Here we see Jupp Heynckes going close for Germany.

'FEW GOOD PLAYERS IN BRAZIL'

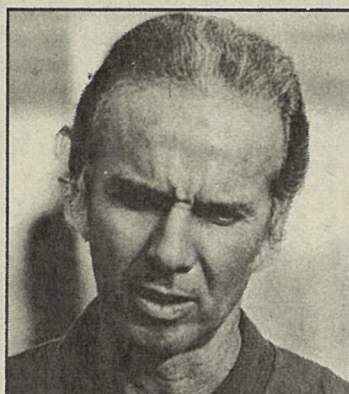
EX-BRAZILIAN manager Mario Zagalo doesn't seem very hopeful about Brazilian football right now. He said to the newspapers that there are precious few good players around and that he feels "sorry" for the new Brazilian manager, Telê Santana.

"I don't know how he is going to do his job, which is, very simply, to make Brazil win the World Cup in 1982 in Spain. I don't think we have the players for that right now," said Zagalo.

Zagalo is speaking from first-hand experience, for he managed Brazil in 1970, when Brazil had Pelé, Tostão, Gérson, Jairzinho, Clodoaldo, Rivelino and Carlos Alberto. Now Zagalo manages Fluminense of Rio de Janeiro, a team with no outstanding players whatsoever. His approach at Fluminense has been to inspire a lot of dedication, determination and hard work from his

players. In this way, they play a kind of total football, but with no brilliance.

But Telê is not complaining. He thinks the secret to make Brazil great



again will be the new players and he has two coaches working under his orders. They have already made a list of 110 players of 21-years-old and less (ten for every position) and Telê will choose from them the ones who will play in the Toulon youth tournament, in France, next month.

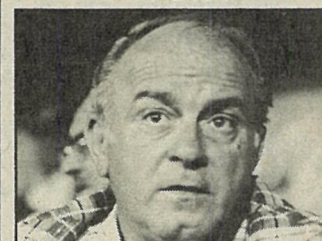
At the same time, Telê says that for the full Brazilian team he will make use of whatever good players there are in the country, irrespective of age.

"In Brazil, people tend to think that a player is over the hill if he is 30-years-old, but I don't agree," he says. "In the past we have tended to say 'such players are going to be 31-years-old or 32-years-old for the next World Cup, so better not call them to the Brazilian team any longer'. I will call the players who are playing well at the moment and not worry about what their form is going to be in two or three years time."

THERE was surprise and consternation in Chile when last year's Champions Colo Colo signed goalkeeper Mario Osben from Unión Española. Colo Colo is now run by a government commission, after the famous Santiago side had run up debts totalling £1.4 million, so it shocked the nation when the commission's first move in its bid to save Colo Colo from extinction was... to spend more money.

Incidentally, the chief of the commission rejoices in the name of Nilo Floody. Sounds the right sort of name to handle liquidation proceedings!

SPORTING GESTURE MAKES DI STEFANO —ANGRY—



VALENCIA'S West German international Rainer Bonhof got into trouble with his manager Alfredo di Stefano (above) after an incident in Valencia's match against Burgos. Bonhof received the ball in the Burgos goalmouth but, with a clear shot at an empty net, he sportingly put the ball over the bye-line to allow Burgos' injured 'keeper Gorosope to receive attention. The crowd applauded the German's gesture, but di Stefano was more interested in League points...

WORLD WIDE



compiled by
CHRIS DAVIES

Victory prayers

IRAN qualified for the Olympic soccer Finals by winning their qualifying group competition held in Singapore. The group comprised Iran, Singapore, Sri Lanka, India, North Korea, and China.

After the last game against the hosts, the Iranians did a lap of honour before the 58,000 (!) fans in the National Stadium, carrying the new flag of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Iran players restricted a flow of well-wishers and Pressmen in order to create a more solemn atmosphere in their dressing-room so they could pray and "thank Allah for his blessing and inspiration."

The players sank to their knees and bowed umpteen times in typical humility during their prayers.

A far cry from the champagne and singing we're used to in the West.

BLOW FOR GERMANY

WEST GERMANY centre-forward Klaus Fischer has broken a leg and will miss the European Championship Finals. This is a severe blow for Jupp Derwall, as the Schalke 04 captain had been his first choice central striker.

The accident happened in the game against Bayer Uerdingen. Fischer had just scored a goal (above).

Derwall has two leading candidates to turn to: Horst Hrubesch of Hamburger SV and Cologne's Dieter Muller. It was in the 1976 European Championship that Muller emerged, although his international career has not progressed as many thought. Tony Woodcock's goal-partner may find himself in the European limelight again this June. He and Hrubesch are top of the Bundesliga goal-chart.



ROBERT Sara, Austria's World Cup captain, has decided to retire from international football saying: "I would have played on had we qualified in the European Championship." Now 34-years-old, his tally is 54 caps and he says the high point of his career was playing in Austria's 3-2 Wembley win over England in 1965.

THE MALAGA BATTLEFIELD

REGULAR readers of this page will remember that Málaga is becoming as famous for its crowd disturbances as it is for its tourist beaches while the local team plunges dramatically towards the Spanish Second Division.

The latest scandal erupted when Málaga were beaten 3-1 at home by fellow relegation-strugglers Rayo Vallecano. As usual, the fans (and, I regret to say, the local Press and radio commentators) decided that the only man to blame for the home side's debacle was the referee, and police had to intervene during the first-half when a section of the crowd broke down the protective barriers and threatened referee Fandos.

With Rayo deservedly 2-0 up, the referee correctly disallowed a 'goal' by Málaga, which didn't exactly please the fired-up fanatics on the terraces. And when Tanco clinched the game with a long-distance free-kick shortly before the end, the crowd decided to forget that no wall had formed and

that the goalkeeper had been poorly positioned — in their opinion the man in black was to blame for signalling the free-kick!

Fandos had to blow the final whistle while he was conveniently placed near the tunnel entrance, and police had to barricade him in his dressing-room as over a thousand fans ran riot outside, breaking windows and threatening to lynch him.

An hour passed before the police could partially clear the crowds with smoke bombs, and get the referee to safety. With Málaga's dustmen's strike, the crowd had not been short of ammunition, and the Rosalda Stadium (one of the 1982 World Cup centres) looked and smelt like a battlefield when the public had finally gone home.

In view of the repeated crowd violence, the Spanish F.A. has decided to close Málaga's ground again — their second ground closure this season.

News flashes

● Bogdan Masztaler, the former Polish international of Ruch Chorzov, has been allowed to join Bundesliga II club OSC Bremerhaven. In accord with their insistence that their players are amateurs, the Polish FA allowed Masztaler to go to West Germany without a fee and sign as a professional.

● There was consternation in Las Palmas when the Spanish F.A. informed the club that their midfielder Julio had been suspended for one match after being shown his fourth yellow card in the match against Espanol. In fact it was Julio's brother Pepe Juan who was shown the card!

● Angelo Bottoni is an Italian football fan who works with computers. After feeding data on many of the world's top players his machine produced 'the perfect player'. According to the computer he is 24-years-old, five foot ten tall and weighs 11 stone two lbs.

● For their home European Cup-tie with Nottm. Forest, Dynamo Berlin were swamped with applications for tickets. They could have cashed in and switched the match to the nearby International Youth Stadium with double the 30,000 capacity at their own Friedrich-Ludwig-Jahn Sportak, but finally decided to give their players the full advantage of playing at home. No comment!

● A Yugoslav court in Kavadarci sentenced four players from Division Two club Radnick Pirov to nine months jail for throwing a game. An official of their opponents FC Tikves who offered them £200 each received the same sentence.

'Same attitude away

Ray Wilkins
WRITES
FOR YOU



I WAS rather unpleasantly surprised recently when someone pointed out that away from home, Manchester United had scored the same amount of goals as Bolton

Wanderers. When you consider that Bolton hadn't actually won an away game either, that statistic was even more worrying.

No one, with the possible excep-

tion of Liverpool, has really come up with the reason why players and teams perform differently at home and away. Okay, you feel more confident at home in familiar sur-



"Bryan Robson scoring for West Brom during our defeat at The Hawthorns."

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different results'

roundings and your own crowd behind you, but the vast difference, generally speaking, between home and away performances can't be put down to better support.

When United played at Stoke there were so many supporters at the Victoria Ground from Manchester it was like a home game for us. Yet Stoke took the initiative and put us under a lot of pressure.

It's all a question of attitude. I'm amazed to see how some players perform away from home. You wouldn't believe they were the same men who you faced earlier in the season.

As far as I know, my attitude is the same at home and away. I'm sure this goes for the other United players, too. Dave Sexton tells us the same thing before every game... to go out and attack. Yet some-

BELOW... "We won 2-0 at Crystal Palace — if we used the offside trap at Selhurst Park, it was because we couldn't afford to lose."



where 'along the line something happens and it isn't quite the same on opponents' grounds.

Norwich, our opponents this Saturday, are one of the hardest teams to beat at Carrow Road, yet they went 12 months without winning an away game. How can you explain that? I certainly can't put my finger on the reason why home and away form should vary so much.

I talk to the Liverpool players on England trips and, naturally, their approach is very professional, but no more professional, individually, than others. Collectively, Liverpool do what the rest of us can't, and that is consistently win away from home. Don't ask me why, though.

If teams are defensive at Anfield and Old Trafford it's because Liverpool and United swamp their opponents, not letting them get into their stride. Only three or four visitors to Old Trafford this season have played, particularly well... Wolves, Everton, Ipswich and Liverpool themselves.

Having said that, it is a sad fact of soccer life that you often have to forsake something in order to win. United have been hot on the heels of Liverpool and we HAD to win points regularly to stay in touch. If some of our football hasn't been as exciting as it was before Christmas, it's simply that winning must take priority over everything else.

We've been first or second all season and it would be tragic if we missed out on qualifying for Europe. The offside trap and playing for time may not be good to watch, but at this stage of the season a side in our position can't give anything away.

United have gone off the boil since the New Year. We've been given some 'stick' by the Press and, occasionally, by the fans, although it has been justified. Mind you, they've been quick to praise us, also.

My old club, Chelsea, haven't been playing too well, by all accounts, yet they've been one of the most consistent of all the teams

at the top of Division Two. United have picked up points regularly without being brilliant, which is a comment on the overall standard of the First Division.

It's ironic that while the First Division isn't as strong as it was five years ago, the England team is much better. It's also a fact that England's best performances have been away from Wembley, a complete reversal of what usually happens in the League. International football and League football are very different, though, and can't be compared.

Maintained

I'm disappointed that the same old faces are at the top of the League again. Only Southampton have maintained the early promise showed by some smaller clubs.

I don't know how the situation can be changed. Fewer games wouldn't help. I was asked last week about Arsenal having to play Spurs, Juventus and Liverpool within six days and I replied that I would have loved to have been in The Gunners' shoes.

Players are used to playing a lot of games in a short period and if you are winning you can play every day. I feel sorry for the fans, because it can work out very expensive. Even if you don't travel away, two home matches in three days isn't cheap.

BELOW... "Liverpool won 5-3 at Norwich — The Reds seem to have the formula for winning away consistently."

Playing key games on top of one another can have varying effects. Remember how Liverpool lost to United in the 1977 F.A. Cup Final, only to bounce back and beat Borussia Mönchengladbach in the European Cup Final in Rome?

Against this, Leeds lost the F.A. Cup and the League title within 48 hours in 1970. Personally, I'd love to play a vital League game, an international and a Cup Final all in the same week. The main drawback of such a schedule is that injuries don't have time to heal properly.

If you asked most players at this stage of the season if they are 100 per cent fit, they'd say "no" if they were honest. We're nearly all carrying some ache or pull... not enough to sideline us, but enough to know it's there.

United have been fortunate with injuries this season. We've missed Jimmy Greenhoff, of course, and Joe Jordan was out for a few weeks, but apart from that most of us have played regularly, touch wood.

Hopefully, we'll all be fit to travel to Norwich this Saturday. We lost 4-1 in the League Cup at Carrow Road, yet beat them 5-0 at Old Trafford with our best display of 1979/80.

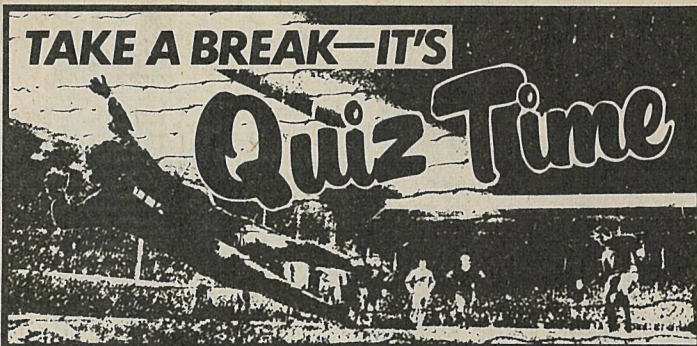
Whatever happens regarding the League title, we must ensure we'll be in Europe one way or the other. On our last visit to East Anglia Ipswich thumped us 6-0, but Norwich haven't been playing too well lately and we'll be looking for two points.

Join me again in a fortnight.

Raymond



TAKE A BREAK—IT'S



1. Which First Division club made a proposal recently that shirt advertising should be allowed for televised matches?

2. Why was Micky Droy (right) forced to miss Chelsea's important Easter programme?

3. Gillingham midfielder player Steve Bruce received his second, third or fourth suspension of the season after reaching 40 points?

4. Bill Dodgin was recently dismissed as manager of Brentford. Can you name the former Fulham defender who was appointed boss of the Griffin Park club?

5. Due to ill health, Sidney Wale resigned as chairman of which First Division club recently?

6. Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of a Scottish Premier Division goalkeeper and his club . . . YRO EBISNA (OONRTM).

7. Can you name the new manager of Charlton Athletic?



8. After the games played on Saturday, March 29th, which clubs headed the Scottish (a) Premier, (b) First and (c) Second Divisions?

9. Paul Cooper's (right) two penalty saves for Ipswich Town against Derby County at Portman Road brought his tally to four, five or six consecutive saves from the spot?

10. Brighton became the first club for three seasons to do the double over Nottingham Forest in League games following their 1-0 win at the Goldstone Ground. Were Liverpool, West Ham or Wolves the last club to beat the European Champions twice in one season?

11. Chelsea's colourful 'keeper Petar Borota recently rejected an approach by which leading American club?

12. Which First Division manager said in a newspaper recently "Some players are definitely not pulling their weight and five or six of them will be on their bikes at the end of the season."?

13. Who was the first Liverpool regular to receive a suspension this season?

14. After 21 home games without defeat, Walsall surrendered their record with a 1-0, 2-1 or 3-2 loss against Peterborough United at Fellows Park?

15. Which English or Scottish League clubs are known by the following nicknames? (a) The Stags, (b) The Accies, (c) The Pilgrims and (d) The Jags?



ANSWERS

Argyle, (d) Partick Thistle.
Mansfield, (b) Hamilton, (c) Plymouth
13. Graeme Souness, 14. 3-2, 15. (a)
Cosmos, 12. John Bond (Norwich),
(c) Falkirk, 9. Five, 10. Wolves, 11.
Bailey, 8. (a) Celtic, (b) Alder,
6. Roy Baines (Morton), 7. Mike
4. Fred Callaghan, 5. Tottenham,
1. Everton, 2. Chicken Pox, 3. Third.

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Down: (1) Blackburn. (2) Err. (3) Turf. (4) One. (5) Dumbarton. (10) Vale. (12) New. (13) Bus.

SIX-A-SIDE SEARCH:

FRAME A:
EXETER, OXFORD, BOLTON,
ORIENT, OLDHAM, FULHAM.

Frame B:
CELTIC, FORFAR, ALBION,
MORTON, DUNDEE, HEARTS.

STAR TREK:

(1) Gray.
(2) Brady.
(3) Walsh.
(4) Taylor.

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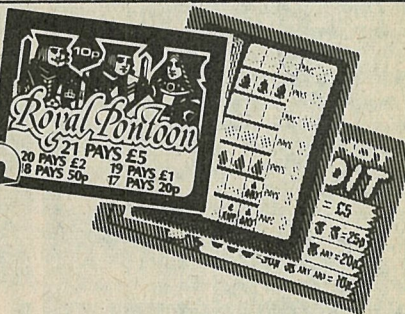
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TWO LEAGUE STARS WHO COULD FACE ENGLAND IN ITALY

'I hope to meet Mick Mills in the Final'

Frans Thijssen

IT will be no surprise if Frans Thijssen caps a great season by following in the footsteps of Dutch colleague Arnold Mühren as "Player of the Year" at Ipswich.

Thijssen arrived from Holland just over a year ago and took the same route as his good friend Mühren. Ipswich paid FC Twente just £50,000 more than for their first Dutch star and handed him the number four shirt vacated by Brian Talbot, sold to Arsenal for £450,000.

Mühren said at the time: "Frans is a better player than I am." But very few people believed it possible. Now, however, they know exactly what he meant because Thijssen is arguably the most complete player in the country.

Don't forget that he is one of only two players in the Football League with a chance of opposing England in the European Championship in Italy in the summer.

His absence from the First Division select side named by players up and down the country in conjunction with the recent PFA Awards amazed his Ipswich colleagues.

Skipper Mick Mills explains: "Perhaps Frans would have had a



better chance of making the side had he come over here to join a bigger club.

"Technically, I have seen few players who are his equal. I know this much — I would hate to have to play against him! I've seen him in action against all the midfield players in England this season and he has outshone them all."

That's a glowing tribute from the Ipswich captain but 28-year-old Thijssen deserves it. He has quickly adjusted to English style, both on and off the field, and his link with Scottish international full-back George Burley is proving particularly effective.

'Atmosphere'

"I love everything about English football. Every game seems to be a big game but in my own country the crowds are dropping and there is not the same atmosphere as in England.

"My biggest disappointment was losing in the F.A. Cup to Everton because it was my ambition to play at Wembley in the Final. But I think there will be a good chance next year."

The fact Thijssen is so settled in Suffolk — he lives with his wife Henriette and daughters Brigitte (five) and Kelly (two) just outside Ipswich — must be a boost for Town boss Bobby Robson at a time when Mühren, his other Dutch star, looks like packing his bags and heading back to the Continent.

Already Mühren has had preliminary talks with Belgian club Bruges — much to Robson's

annoyance.

But no matter whether Mühren stays or leaves, Thijssen says: "I have no problems. I am happy here and hope to stay for a long time. Of course I hope Arnold stays."

Thijssen also hints that he may be prepared to accept a new contract when his current agreement ends next year. "That will be up to Mr Robson if he thinks I am worth keeping. But we will see when the time comes," he laughs.

For the time being, however, he has a twin target. First, to help Ipswich finish high enough in the First Division to maintain their remarkable sequence of qualifying for the U.E.F.A. Cup. And secondly, to play his part in a Dutch victory in the European Championship in Italy.

"We are in a tough group along with West Germany and Czechoslovakia, so it is going to be very difficult," he says. "It will take a very good team to win the competition and home advantage is important."

"When Holland reached the World Cup Final in 1974 and again in 1978 they were favourites on each occasion but lost both games to the host countries. This is why I feel Italy must have a good chance."

"It would be nice if England and Holland reach the Final together and I play against Mick Mills. I saw England play Eire this year when I visited Wembley for the first time but it was not the real England."

"When they are at full strength — and that means Mick in the number three shirt — they will be in with a chance in Italy. But when I look at all the countries who have qualified it is almost impossible to pick a winner."

'Coventry can help me play for Belgium'

Roger van Gool

ROGER van Gool faces a race against time to pick up the pieces of his international career.

The 29-year-old Belgian international, who moved from FC Cologne to Coventry City recently in a £250,000 deal, has a burning ambition to play for his country against England in the European Championship in June.

But he has spent the last three years locked in the middle of a bitter row between Cologne and the Belgian F.A. which stemmed from the German club's failure to release him for an international.

The Belgian star was told he would not be considered for international duty again until he left Cologne — and now he is desperate for one more chance.

And he says: "I would love to get back into the side for the England game. I think playing in the English First Division can help me, because it is the hardest and most competitive in the world and if I can play well here I must have a chance."

But time is against van Gool, who has spent the past four months sidelined with a troublesome hamstring injury and will obviously need a few matches to regain his form.

And with the end of the season now looming, van Gool must find his touch fast.

But he revealed: "The Belgian manager, Guy Thijs, has already been in touch with me and wants to come to Coventry so we can talk and he can have a look at my game."

"I am lucky because I know him well, he used to be my coach at Anderlecht so he will be sympathetic."

"There is far more skill in English football than people here realise. I have always felt it would be a challenge to any player to be with an English club."

"I have already settled down at Highfield Road. While it will take time to produce my best football I feel I will enjoy myself and help the side — and with luck they can help

me return to the Belgian international team."

Roger, of course, spent three months with Tony Woodcock, who went to Germany from Nottingham Forest in November.

And van Gool, Woodcock and Kevin Keegan, soon to leave Hamburg for Southampton, all had one thing in common. All broke the German transfer record when they arrived.

'Under-rated'

"Like Keegan, Woodcock is a great player. I understand he was under-rated when he was with Nottingham Forest, but in Germany everybody talks about him."

Van Gool could have moved to the Cosmos but chose Coventry to fulfil his ambition to play in England — and to help him back into the Belgian side.

And he said: "I am sure I have made the right decision — see you in Italy!"



Q.P.R. MUST KEEP STARS



Chris Woods gathers the ball safely watched by team-mate and neighbour Ian Gillard.

QUEENS Park Rangers goalkeeper Chris Woods believes the club has hit on a winning formula guaranteed to produce promotion back to the First Division in the near future.

Manager Tommy Docherty has carefully constructed a team blessed with a winning blend of exciting youth and experience.

The only problem now facing Rangers according to Woods is the threat of the First Division clubs opening their cheque books and luring those talented players away from Loftus Road.

"The pick of the youngsters are Clive Allen, Paul Goddard and Glenn Roeder," says Woods. "Players like these are always being chased by other clubs, and it's essential that we hang on to them if we are to achieve the dream of winning back our place in the top flight."

Compiled

Woods was one of the first names on the list Tommy Docherty compiled when he breezed into West London last May to take charge of Queens Park Rangers.

Rangers had just fallen out of the First Division. Morale was low and the Doc knew a massive rebuilding job was necessary.

And he knew he had to get things right from the very foundations. That's why Woods — one of the country's outstanding young 'keepers was his top priority.

The mercurial Doc — never afraid to back his judgment — offered Brian Clough £250,000 for Woods, languishing in the shadow of Peter Shilton at Forest.

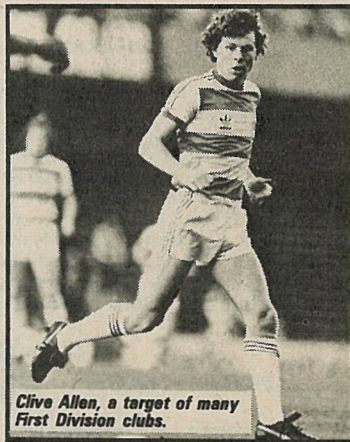
Understudying Shilton must rate as the most thankless and hopeless task in football. How on earth can you expect to displace a

player as brilliant as him?

Woods did manage to take the spotlight for a spell during Shilton's first season at Forest. He was League Cup tied following his £350,000 move from Stoke — so Woods was in goal as Clough's Red Army marched to their first triumph in the competition.

They beat Liverpool in a Final replay at Old Trafford in 1978 — after the young Woods had played superbly to earn Forest a goalless draw in the first game at Wembley.

Apart from that brief moment of



Clive Allen, a target of many First Division clubs.

glory, Woods found himself condemned to reserve team soccer and saw no way of ever getting his 'sentence' commuted.

So when Docherty came in with the inviting offer of a regular first team place the England Youth and Under-21 keeper Chris Woods jumped at it.

Any fears he had about moving to the big city after a relatively quiet upbringing in Boston, Lincs were soon dispelled.

He has moved into Berkshire,

near team-mates Steve Wicks and Ian Gillard, and is loving every moment of his new life.

"Tommy Docherty is a real bubbly character. If he has moods — like the rest of us — he never shows them and is happy and cheerful, outwardly anyway, all the time.

"The team spirit is tremendous. Everyone gets on well and all are battling to get the club back into the First Division.

"And that in itself is quite an achievement. For I'm told that people were really on the floor and spirit non-existent at the end of last season when Rangers were relegated.

"We believe we are as good as any team in the Second Division and have an even chance of promotion.

"It's the teams that show consistency and put a string of good results together, that will probably squeeze into the top three places. So let's hope we are one of them.

"But if we are not, there is no reason for undue gloom and despondency. For the structure of the club is so solid now we must be certs next time round.

"Tommy Docherty has picked Rangers up off the floor and given the fans something to shout about again. They should all be grateful for that."

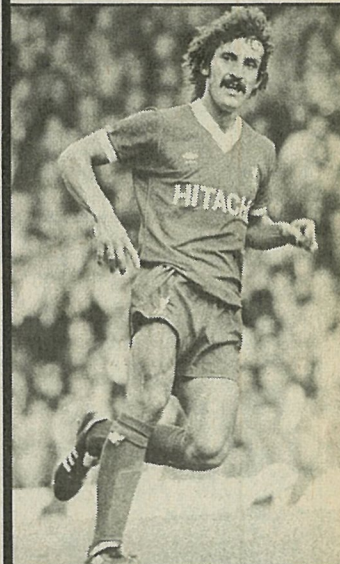
Woods claims that Rangers must hang on to Tony Currie, Clive Allen and their other star players in order to clinch promotion. But can they keep Tommy Docherty?

He is such an unpredictable character, the club might wake up one morning and find him gone.

He is doing such a marvellous job at Loftus Road his departure would send fans into mourning.

NEXT WEEK...

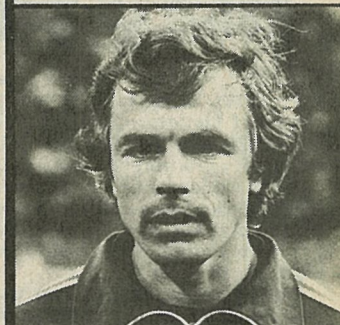
Why Terry McDermott plans to leave Liverpool . . .



SHOOT names the England squad we believe Ron Greenwood should take to Italy . . .

The Aston Villa star who saved the club a big fee . . .

We talk to West Germany skipper Bernard Dietz about his country's chances in the European Championship . . .



Bernard Dietz

Exclusive interview with new Wales manager Mike England . . .

IN COLOUR

John Toshack in the new Welsh strip . . .

Lou Macari (Man. Utd.) . . .

Joe Royle (Bristol City) . . .

Celtic stars and

Focus on Alan Hansen of Liverpool.

All this and much, much more in SHOOT next week . . . the soccer magazine players read and take seriously!

Consistent Cherry a must for England

WHEN Ron Greenwood chooses his squad for the European Championship Finals in Italy one of the first names likely to be selected will be Trevor Cherry.

The Leeds United player is by no means a regular in the England side but Cherry has become such an established and valuable member of the international set-up that a squad without his name would seem incomplete.

It is a tremendous tribute to his consistency and attitude.

He has played for his country more than 20 times since Don Revie first introduced him against Wales in 1976.

And on countless other occasions he has occupied a seat on the substitutes' bench or even in the stand.

"Obviously I would like to actually play in every international but with the way things have gone for England over the last couple of years I'm delighted just to be a part of it all," he said.

"The manager can't play everyone and he established what was virtually a settled side in the qualifying games. It didn't do so badly to qualify and drop only one point on the way!

"But I played against Eire in the last Championship match so I would like to think I'm still very much in his plans," he added.

Those plans include Italy, and as the Greenwood bandwagon rolls on, the spirit within the camp is somewhat different to a few years ago when one or two players seemed almost reluctant to join an England squad unless they were virtually guaranteed a game.

"I have to admit that Ron Greenwood has been a breath of fresh air," went on Trevor. "He seems so relaxed about everything and although he's obviously as keen to win as everyone else, there doesn't seem to be the same sort of desperation there used to be.

"Results help of course and the whole emphasis recently has been on flair and entertainment which has proved popular with players and spectators alike."

So things are going well and already there is talk of an English success in Italy.

Trevor is cautiously optimistic. "It will be a testing ground for us

in many ways because although we have done really well so far Italy is a different matter.

"It will be difficult for England out there because everything and practically everyone will be against us. There's so much talent and such a good spirit in the squad, though, that I believe we can do very well."

One cast-iron certainty for the trip is, of course, Kevin Keegan, and Trevor is full of admiration for the Hamburg star's influence on the camp.

"He's a brilliant player and skipper. I suppose he is a real superstar and allegedly a millionaire, but while his impact on the squad is enormous he's just



Kevin Keegan (left) —
"A brilliant skipper,"
according to Cherry.

one of the lads really. I'm sure he would resent it if he was treated any other way.

"He will have a prominent part to play during the summer and it is good to have him on our side!"

Italy, however, is still a little way away and Leeds United occupy Cherry's thoughts more at the

moment.

"We seem to be more stable now and the manager has built up quite a large squad so I'm hoping for better things next season.

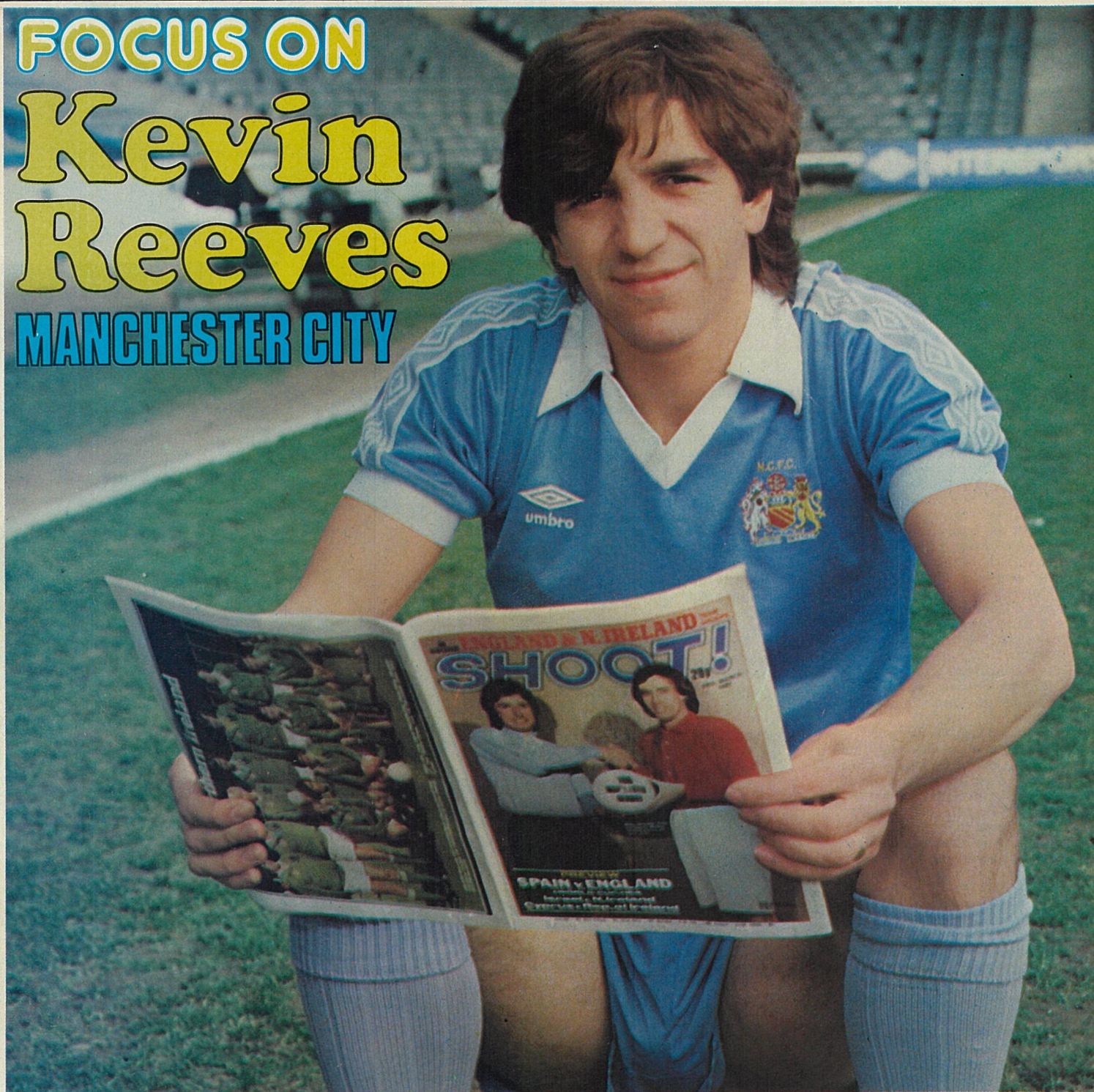
"We've had our fair share of injuries and new faces have arrived so it's been difficult to achieve any real consistency.

"With the players we have, though, I'm optimistic you will see a more powerful Leeds challenge for honours next season."

Before then Trevor should have an appointment in Italy and success there would be a marvellous boost for football all around the country.

FOCUS ON Kevin Reeves

MANCHESTER CITY



FULL NAME: Kevin Philip Reeves
BIRTHPLACE: Burley, Hants
BIRTHDATE: 20th October, 1957
HEIGHT: 5ft 10ins
WEIGHT: 11st 10lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Bournemouth, Norwich City
MARRIED: To Mary
CHILDREN: Philip (1)
CAR: Vauxhall Cavalier Coupe GL
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Pele
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAMS: Bournemouth and Norwich
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: There are many
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: England debut v Bulgaria last year
BIGGEST THRILL: Playing for England

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing in the Semi-Finals of the U.E.F.A. Under-21 Championship to Yugoslavia
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: America
FAVOURITE FOOD: Dover sole
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Golf, tennis, snooker and reading
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Smoking, washing my car
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: The Two Ronnies, most sports programmes
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Dustin Hoffman and Lee Remick
BEST FRIEND: I have a few good friends
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: John Benson and John Bond
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Losing

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: England Youth, Under-21, 'B' and full caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy with my family
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To win honours with club and country
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? No idea
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Pele

Kevin Reeves

SHOOT!